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PHILADELPHIA

JOURNAL OF HORTICULTURE

EDITED BY J. H. COLEMAN
PUBLISHED BY J. H. COLEMAN
10 N. 3RD ST. PHILADELPHIA

Vol. 1 No. 1

1848

1848

1848

1848

1848

1848

THE

PHILADELPHIA



JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

EDITED BY

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PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY IN THE HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA,

AND

JOHN F. GEARY.

ASSISTED BY NUMEROUS CONTRIBUTORS.

VOLUME IV.

1855-6.

PHILADELPHIA:
RADEMACHER & SHEEK.

No. 239 ARCH STREET.

1856.



PHILADELPHIA

JOURNAL OF HOMOEOPATHY

WILLIAM A. GARDNER, M.D.

JOHN A. GARDNER

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

VOLUME IV

1877

KING & BAIRD, PRINTERS,
9 Sanson Street.

PHILADELPHIA
PUBLISHED BY
KING & BAIRD, 9 Sanson Street.

1773

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E R R A T A .

Vol. IV., No. 9, page 529, line 19 from the bottom, for <i>tempore</i> , read <i>tempora</i> .
“ “ “ page 567, last line, for <i>is</i> , read <i>sit</i> .
“ “ “ page 567, line 8 from top, for <i>experimentists</i> , read <i>experiments</i> .
“ “ “ page 154, line 2 from top, for <i>Ingredetur</i> , read <i>Ingreditur</i> .
“ “ “ page 577, line 2 from top, for <i>decor</i> , read <i>dicor</i> .
“ “ “ page 643, line 16 from bottom, for <i>analysis</i> read <i>analyses</i> .

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — APRIL, 1855. — No. I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—

I owe it to myself to say, the following article is simply what it purports to be, a lecture on chloroform, considered as an obstetric agent, and in its *medico-legal aspect*—was one of the course of lectures delivered to the class in the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania—prepared, not for publication, to instruct practitioners, but to present to the student in a condensed form, what we know of anæsthetic agents, and their practical value.

The lecture is presented as it was delivered, and consequently retains the simplicity of style—colloquial language, and argumentative form of address, so appropriate to the teacher. As the object was to instruct, all who have written upon the subject, whose writings were accessible to me, have been made to contribute to the mass of facts here collated. And none more freely than Dr. Channing, of Boston, for whose valuable work on chloroform, the profession are laid under great obligation.

CHLOROFORM, CONSIDERED IN ITS RELATION TO PARTURITION AND ITS MEDICO-LEGAL ASPECT.

By J. M. Ward, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics and Medical Jurisprudence, and of the Diseases of Women and Children, in the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania.

GENTLEMEN:—

In this morning's lecture, we propose to consider the subject of etherization, in connexion with parturition. Its relation to other departments of the profession, and especially the use of anæsthetic

agents in surgery, some time before they were used in midwifery, will make appropriate some reference to the facts that we have accumulated in their earlier and later general history.

In the consideration of these facts we shall have occasion to allude to the chemical purity of chloroform, and the tests by which it will be proclaimed to us. For this seeming departure from what might be regarded as strictly pertaining to this chair, we offer as our apology, the necessity that is laid upon, in order to give entireness to the lecture, to incorporate in our consideration of it as an *obstetric* agent, its chemical composition—the purity of the article—the simplest means of ascertaining it, and its use in surgical practice. The examination of its effects upon the *brain*, appropriately belong to us as medical jurists. The recent conviction of a dentist in this city, on the testimony of one on whose person he was charged with committing an outrage, while under the operation of chloroform, has given to the physiological effects of chloroform upon the brain, an importance that was never before supposed to attach to the consideration of the subject in its *medico-legal aspects*.

We shall use the terms *etherization* and *anæsthesia* indiscriminately, and simply to express the condition of system that follows ether inhalation. The substances used to produce etherization are *sulphuric ether*, *chloric ether*, and *chloroform*. Chloric ether, which is a solution of chloroform in spirit and water, has given place mainly to the other two substances; of these, we will briefly recapitulate their comparative advantages.

Sulphuric ether, long and early used, commends itself from the favorable effects produced. It is easily managed, its effects are more slowly developed in the system—and consequently it is said to be more manageable, while those effects continue longer than those of chloroform. The objections to its use, opposed to these seemingly favorable effects are, a large quantity is often required to produce the anæsthetic impression on the system; a disagreeable odor attaches to the vapor, acting as an irritant to the glottis, the lining of the bronchial tubes, and air-passages of the lungs, so as often to excite a troublesome cough; this odor can be detected for a long time in the breath, proving a duration of action long after it is desirable it should cease.

In addition to the length of time required to have its effects developed, and the duration of those effects, there is superadded a

degree of undue mental and physical excitement attendant upon its use. Chloroform, on the other hand, has for its recommendation, speedy action; its effects are quickly produced, and with a small quantity of fluid. The state of etherization induced, is at once perfect, if desired, and being rapidly decomposed, is more evanescent in its action, and soon disappears from the system. Its odor, even during its continuance, being pleasant, is quite in contrast to the peculiarly unpleasant and irritating odor of sulphuric ether—never irritates the air-passages, and instead of the excitement attendant upon the use of the ether, chloroform induces a tranquility of system.

The objections however to its use, made by some, are that its very rapidity of action forbids so correct a measurement of its power upon the system, and it is further said, that this action is not at all times proportioned to the quantity used, and that untoward results have sometimes followed its use, that must be ascribed to its unkind action upon the organism; a state of things that could not be anticipated, and hence, attaching a degree of importance and even of danger, to its use, under every trial made with it, that makes it a too formidable agent for ordinary use.

But from the recorded experience of those who have made trial of both sulphuric ether and chloroform in parturition, we are warranted in saying the testimony is decidedly in favor of the latter. The two most prominent advocates for the use of chloroform in parturition, are Professor Simpson of Edinburgh, and Professor Channing of Boston; these champions in its use unite in testifying that no unfortunate case has yet fallen under their observation, in the hundred thousand cases in which it has been administered.

Professor Channing says, “The success of etherization in the practice of midwifery has, I believe, been perfect. I do not remember a case in which it has been induced either by ether or chloroform, in which there has been the least reason to question its entirely useful agency, both in regard to mother and child.”

Chloroform, or the Perchloride of Formyle, was discovered by the celebrated European chemists Dumas, Liebig, and Soubeiran, as early as 1832, and about the same time in this country, by Samuel Guthrie, of New York, the account of which was published in the Commercial Advertiser of that city, in 1832.

The chloroform in general use is prepared by the distillation of

alcohol with *chloride of lime*, according to the following formula—this is Simpson's method, and recommended by the French chemist, Dumas—

R. Chloride of Lime, in powder,	4lb
Water,	12lb
Rectified Spirit,	12oz.

Mix in a capacious retort, and distil as long as a dense liquid which sinks in the water with which it comes over, is produced. The resulting Perchloride of Formyle, consists of two atoms of carbon, one of hydrogen, and three of *chlorine*—its specific gravity is much greater than water, being as 1.480—the odor of chloroform is fragrant and agreeable, when pure, and something of a naphtha smell when less so; it is a *dense colorless liquid*, evaporating quickly, and has a sweetish taste. *Soubeiran* proposes as a *test*, equal parts of strong sulphuric acid and water, and when cool, a few drops of chloroform poured into the fluid, ought to sink to the bottom, if sufficiently pure for medicinal use; but if they float on the surface, the chloroform should be rejected.

The vapor of chloroform is about four times heavier than atmospheric air, and hence, if the patient is placed on the back during its inhalation, it will, by its mere gravity, force itself in larger quantities into the air-passages, than if erect or seated.

The discovery of the value of anæsthetics as medicinal agents, and their introduction into practice, is claimed both by Dr. Wells of Hartford, and Dr. Jackson of Boston; the first experiments of their use as alleviators of pain being made in the Massachusetts Hospital. To one of these gentlemen belongs the honor of calling the attention of the profession to this boon of nature, that is destined to secure to the author a like meed of praise, to that awarded to the discoverer of vaccination.

But chloroform was first used in the practice of midwifery, as well as first proposed to be used in surgery, for preventing pain, by Professor Simpson of Edinburgh. Previous, however, to this, Surgeon Lawrence of London, had used chloric ether, which is a solution of chloroform in spirit and water, as an alleviator of pain in surgical operations. In the spring of 1847, Dr. Channing of Boston, Professor of Obstetrics in the University of Cambridge, first in this country made trial of it in the practice of midwifery. Since which time it has been cautiously and slowly introduced into the

practice of obstetrics in various parts of the United States. Few remedies promising so much by way of alleviating the sufferings of the race have been more cautiously introduced into practice—the experiments of its use watched more closely, repeated more cautiously—their effects upon the organism, both mental and physical, more minutely noted, than have been those of chloroform. Its introduction into practice would by no means justify the remark so appropriate to many other new remedies, that it has been with a rush.

Eight years have elapsed since these experiments were commenced being made; let the profession be summoned to give their testimony as to its value as a medicinal agent; as the witnesses approach, group them into classes. The grouping, you will find not unlike that which would obtain if the community was summoned for its opinion as to the benefits of Homœopathy.

In the first class, let those stand who have given it a trial. Few of them will be found who have given it a careful trial in the practice of midwifery, that are not decidedly friendly to its use. The exceptions will probably be found to be of like character with those who have tried Homœopathy—that they might more successfully oppose it.

Another class have not tried it, and will probably testify to you that they had decided, in their own minds that they never would—while much the larger class have remained, as do the mass of those who have never made trial of Homœopathy, indifferent spectators.

The power of anæsthetic agents over the intellectual and physical functions, was first clearly demonstrated to us, in the use of sulphuric ether in surgical practice; the use of it in that department of professional labor, is now so general, as to justify the remark, that scarcely is there a capital operation performed in any of the hospitals in any of our cities, or in any provincial town where it is not resorted to, unless strong objections are made on the part of the patient. If this be considered too strong language, we can with truth say, it is present to be used if the patient desires it. Soon after the discovery of this anæsthetic power in sulphuric ether, other agents were brought forward, and under trial, were demonstrated to possess a like power, that under certain indications it was contended, would be free from the objections that had been raised against sulphuric ether; to these we have already alluded in

contrasting the superior advantages of chloroform and sulphuric ether.

The use of these agents in surgical practice has occasionally given rise to unpleasant symptoms, and sometimes to untoward events. These unfortunate cases, viz. : of death resulting from the inhalation of an anæsthetic have thus far been confined entirely to its employment in surgery.* No unfortunate case, that I am aware of, has ever occurred after its use in the practice of midwifery. This difference of experience in these two departments of professional labor may be the result of the difference of its administration, and the different ends sought to be attained by it. In the former case it is sought to bring the patient speedily under its operation, and with the administration of a large quantity of the ethereal fluid, with the view of completely narcotising the patient for a painful operation. While in the latter under its more gradual administration, the patient is but partially etherized, the object sought being a diminution and not an entire suspension of sensibility, (unless it be in a case of operative midwifery). We will venture to suggest that some of the unfortunate cases in its employment in surgical practise may have been the result of negligence in its administration, overlooking a precaution that should always be exercised of suffering the patient to inhale a portion of atmospheric air in conjunction with the anæsthetic. We all know the oxygen of the atmosphere is the only life sustaining element in it or other gaseous fluids. The absence of it in those used as anæsthetics would of itself account for the loss of life, where the patient was incautiously confined to the inhalation of the anæsthetic. I am inclined to this opinion from learning through a former student, who was present at an operation in a hospital in a neighboring city, in which the patient died, immediately after the inhalation, that the sponge saturated with the fluid was applied and confined to the nostrils, so as to forbid

* In the only case of death following the use of chloroform in parturition, claimed by objectors to be the result of its administration, and yet as stoutly denied by the advocates for it, was that of a patient in the suburbs of London, who died in convulsions, following, it is true, the use of chloroform, but not immediately, as more than an hour elapsed after the inhalation before any untoward symptoms made their appearance. This case, if rendered fatal by the use of chloroform, bears no analogy, as the objectors themselves must admit to those occurring in surgical practice, for without an exception the fatal symptoms have marked, not followed, the period of inhalation.

the inhalation of the atmospheric air; the administrator the meanwhile having his mind so absorbed in witnessing the operation as to forget the sponge was at the nostril, till it was too late to save the patient.

If it be true, as is alleged, that the fatal cases resulting from its use, did not occur during the earlier, but belong to the later period of its history, the question becomes a more important one, whether death has not sometimes resulted from an impure article being used, rather than from chloroform itself. The importance that attaches to the purity of the article must not be forgotten; whatever agent is used, be it sulphuric ether, chloric ether or chloroform, the comfort of the patient if not his well being demands this at your hands. Admitting however, that the introduction of chloroform into general practice, has been marked with victims to its use, we would ask what valuable article have we in the old school *materia medica*, for which like priceless contributions have not been paid, before we could learn the conditions of system demanding, and those contra-indicating their use? How many think you are there to whom opium has been administered (in doses such as old school physicians prescribe that drug) in congestions of the brain, have sacrificed their lives to the use of it, an article too of such reputed value that deprived of it, the old school physicians would retire from the field. And how many under the injudicious administration of that article, even now that the indications for its use are so well marked, continue to be offered as a holocaust upon its altar? And who would think of ascribing death from such a cause to any thing else than the injudicious administration of it. May it not be found equally true, that many, if not most of the fatal cases in the use of chloroform, have resulted from the same injudiciousness in the administration; ignorantly disregarding the indications and the rules that should guide the practitioner in its use.

As regards the mode of administering it, various instruments and contrivances are used. A hollow sponge, or a handkerchief with the liquid poured upon it is all that are used by some; but the volatile character of the fluid renders either of these inappropriate, unless they are placed in a box, something of the shape of an old fashioned metallic tobacco box, lined with some substance to prevent its rusting, the lid of which is raised as the inhalation is to be made and closed immediately after it is effected, to prevent the escape of

the ether into the room. By others, a ball of cotton wetted with the chloroform and then tightly enveloped in a strip of cotton batting, is made to cover the mouth, taking the precaution not to have it so thick or solid that the air cannot be admitted through it; but various instruments made of glass, of tin, and of silver, of almost every variety of shape, have been recommended. Probably none will be found more convenient than a small glass vessel, not inaptly compared to a common sand-box, the top of which instead of being circular, is flattened at the sides so as to fit conveniently over the mouth of the patient. This inhaler contains a bit of fine sponge, on which the liquid is poured; the mouth piece is then applied over the lips of the patient, a small aperture is left in the bottom of the vessel, so as to secure the admission of a quantity of atmospheric air to the lungs, should it fail to be received through the nostrils. This provision highly recommends this instrument above others for securing a condition which should always obtain in every mode of administration; to give prominence to it we would repeat that the respired air should always have a free exit from the lungs, and a portion of oxygenated air should be admitted either in conjunction with or during the intervals of the inhalation of anæsthetics. If, as we strongly suspect, many fatal cases have resulted from such omission, attention to such condition would remove one source of danger from the use of etherization. For myself I am free to declare the safety of the patient will in a great measure depend on the purity of the article used, and the adoption of some provision for admitting so much atmospheric air with the vapor as will make a respirable mixture.

A small quantity of chloroform is poured upon the sponge, and the patient inhales the vapor which rapidly forms, until the desired effect is produced, which will generally be within one or two minutes; if this is done a little before the pain commences, the action of it will probably continue till the pain is over. And from the effect produced, and the degree of relief obtained, it will be easy for the intelligent accoucheur to judge of the action of the agent upon the system and the further continuance of its use.

Dr. Channing remarks on the manner of using the anæsthetic, and I quote for the judiciousness of his instructions, "To avoid the troublesome effects attendant upon the introduction, it is necessary to observe some rules in the beginning of the inhalation. Let it be

moderate at first; approach the instrument slowly to the mouth, and if choking or other uneasy sensation or effect occur, remove the inhaler somewhat, and at length bring it where it is designed to be placed."

If the lungs be previously emptied by a full expiration, the sooner is etherization established. Let the breathing now be full and slow, and observe its effects. Ask the person to raise the eyelids, to speak, or to move a limb. Raise a limb, and if it fall suddenly and powerless, the desired effect is produced. Now remove the inhaler at once, and the person may afterwards indicate its application—(apply it herself.) I speak of its use in midwifery practice alone, or we may re-apply it as circumstances indicate. It will be found almost without exception that the continuance of the etherization will be effected, with a moderate use of its agency, after it has been once established. This remark is of much practical value in midwifery practice, since many hours will elapse before a labor is terminated from the first inhalation. In some and in a majority, this state is induced easily, and continued with a small amount of ether, while in others there is a strong antagonism in the system to its establishment and preservation.

It is not necessary in midwifery practice to induce so full and perfect a state of etherization, viz.: of unconsciousness and insensibility as is demanded in surgical operations, especially in natural labor. In operative midwifery it would be necessary to produce and maintain a more perfect etherization. The object in simply severe labor, is to moderate or diminish the suffering. There is much of this suffering that the patient readily bears. So true is this in practise, that cases are constantly occurring in which etherization is induced, and the patient determines herself the extent to which it shall be carried by a partial, or perfect inhalation of the anæsthetic. In the intervals of uterine contraction, the instrument is removed by the patient, or by her direction given in some way, and which is at once understood. She knows when the pain is coming on, and demands the inhaler. She graduates the supply, so to speak, to the demand, and in this way is presented to the observation of the practitioner, one of the most important and interesting agencies in operation for relieving suffering, which he ever observes. In this way his office seems to be to see the patient the practitioner, while he has but to witness its effects.

Patients of delicate nervous temperament often suffer severely from nervous agitation. Great nervous excitement marks the first stage of labour and sometimes continues through the whole period of parturition in females of such a temperament. A degree of nervous apprehension marks the commencement of each pain—they feel their pains most acutely; lose all control of the will, and express their suffering in the most heart-rending manner. To such conditions of system, chloroform seems to be so admirably adapted as often to act like a charm in dissipating the patient's suffering, and when the system is but partially brought under its influence, to fortify it by soothing the nervous system. It checks those irregular and spasmodic pains which retard the proper expulsive efforts, and by taking off the resistance which the will offers to the contractive efforts and bringing it in harmony with nature in her expulsive efforts, shortens materially the duration of labour. Chloroform unquestionably is the most reliable remedy for taking away the anguish and distress which often proceed to such an extremity of suffering as seems unendurable by the patient, and saves, too, the practitioner and friends from the pain of witnessing those struggles and that agony which often completely unnerves them.

The physiological effects of chloroform, are a loss of consciousness, sensibility and voluntary muscular motion. The vital actions are not ordinarily interfered with; indeed, are in no way affected, unless it be from the mental excitement attendant upon the inhalation, or rather in anticipation of it. The action of the heart is from the same cause, rather increased than otherwise. When fully etherized the pulse is rather fuller and slower than ordinary. Respiration is also at first rather accelerated, as though affected by the mental excitement. Digestion not at all impaired, unless it be that occasionally there has followed its exhibition some sickness of stomach and vomiting. Hence you will find in the directions touching its administration an injunction not to administer it on a full stomach; this precaution being taken, vomiting is seldom observed to follow the inhalation of chloroform. The action of the uterus being involuntary, its contractions are not at all influenced by etherization; and the relaxation of the muscular system secures a diminution of the resistance the perineal muscles offer to the force of the pains, and that very relaxation diminishes the danger of a laceration of the perineum under labour.

This suspension of muscular action, and muscular resistance, saves the patient from the exhaustion attendant upon ordinary labour, and enables her sooner to recover from the effects of labour upon the system; protects her from the shock the nervous system sustains, as well as the soreness so common from the strain of the muscles; and inasmuch as the patient is saved from the exhaustion, so is she from the diseases of the puerperal state dependant upon the exhaustion of nervous power. Hence we are warranted in saying, chloroform not only saves the patient from the pains of labour, but measurably from the perils of child-birth.

The contra indications for the use of chloroform are not now, as formerly, supposed to be made known by any special condition or function of system. It was long and very generally supposed that even functional diseases of the lungs or heart, and particular conditions of the nervous system contra indicated the use of anæsthetics; whereas observations have proven that the sufferings of patients with diseases of the lungs have been very much alleviated by their use. In cases of distressing dyspnœa and asthma, patients have found relief from chloroform when all other means tried have failed. Some forms of cough have also been very much palliated. In affections of the heart, etherization has been safely used as well as in affections of the brain, or of the head, so called. There are many cases where etherization has been resorted to with its usual good results. And it has not only been used in child-birth where such a condition of things has been found existing, it has even been used as a remedial measure in cases of chronic and paroxysmal *headache*, and with decidedly happy effects.

In almost all the cases where death has resulted from its injudicious administration or from its injudicious continuance, where symptoms sprang up showing that it was not being borne kindly, there has been nothing, as I can learn, discovered by the post mortem examination, either of structural derangement prior existing, or resulting from its use that would account for the death of the patient; and yet I would caution you against administering it in congestions of the *brain* or lungs, and in structural diseases of the heart. The symptoms that spring up under the inhalation, that may be regarded as untoward, that should teach us not to press its use, are *paleness*—*lividity*—observable in the lips, face and fingers, diminished temperature of body, disturbance in the circulation, pulse feeble and

rapid, respiration, *sighing*, slow, deep, occasionally noiseless and still, so as not to be perceived, the patient lying perfectly still, no expression or change to the countenance. These symptoms may manifest themselves suddenly after the first inhalation; if they do so, they will probably resemble syncope, and the remedy should be discontinued. In the report of the fatal case in the Albany Hospital, one of the last fatal cases reported, it is said the patient fainted; the inhalation was discontinued for a few minutes and then was again resorted to, the patient fainted a second time and did not recover from it. If these symptoms come on later in the period of inhalation, it would suggest itself to your minds as being the result of the exclusion of the atmospheric air. The indications in both cases, are to cease the inhalation, give the patient a free admission of air possibly by a fan, if one be at hand, or opening a window, seeing in either case that the heat of the body is not too rapidly abstracted.

The objections of Prof. Meigs to chloroform in parturition, as embodied in a letter to Dr. Channing, of Boston, I have carefully considered, and if I rightly understand them, are altogether of a physiological nature, demanding for their support the succession of its action on the several parts of the brain, from the hemispheres to the *medulla oblongata*, while it is obvious no such law of succession can be ascertained. There is no known effect of anæsthetic agents upon the brain; either upon the hemispheres, or medulla oblongata, so uniformly following their administration, as to demonstrate to us their law of action. This is clearly proven from the great variety of results observed in the system on post mortem examinations. The heart and lungs have been found in opposite conditions; with one the heart has been found congested, with another empty. And equally various are the conditions in which the blood itself is found, in cases where death has followed immediately after etherization, proving most conclusively that no such law of succession is known. In the present state of physiological science, especially that part of it relating to the nervous system, the law of succession of the action of anæsthetic agents cannot be learned. And yet so fully has that gentleman yielded himself to the guidance of prejudice to frame an objection, based upon such a foundation, and in the enjoyment of which he seeks to justify himself as to give utterance to the following sentiment:—"If the voice of Prof. Simpson, of Edinburgh," he says, to

whom he was writing, "should reach me from across the Atlantic, with the triumphant reply that in one hundred thousand cases chloroform had been administered without accident, I would not be moved from my position." Now, gentlemen, with such a determined opposition to the introduction of any new agent in the treatment of disease, how are we to advance one step farther in the discovery of truth? And what, too, will become of the authority of statistics? which medical writers examine with so much interest, and on which they are wont to rely with such unshaken confidence, a science which in matters of fact has been of the greatest practical benefit. Submit yourselves to such teaching—admit the fact, that statistical testimony, however cumulative, must not weigh with you when conflicting with supposed physiological action, and you may cease to record your facts—for midnight darkness again encircles us. To such objectors it matters not whether ten—a thousand—ten thousand—or a million of cases, duly authenticated, have been successfully and happily treated under etherization. Now, gentlemen, you perceive this is a priori reasoning in its inception and carrying out.

It *completely* disregards *any* and *every* array of facts that the experience of the profession may present for our consideration. Just the mode of reasoning that was opposed to the facts, that the founder of our system, and his coadjutors, presented for the consideration of the profession, with the hope they would unite with us in demonstrating, the universal applicability of the great law of cure to every variety of suffering, and every form of disease. A mode of arguing that sets at defiance the accumulating facts that make the foundation of every inductive science. Those influenced by such reasoning never ask, what has *homœopathy* done in assuaging suffering or curing disease? Nor will they ask, what has etherization done in child-birth to the mother—or *for* the mother and to the child? is it salutary or deadly in its influence? *Their* question, the rather, is, what should it do upon certain physiological principles? assuming always the correctness of their position from the confused grouping of physiological facts, on points upon which the mists that encircle that science have not yet been fully dissipated.

I would rather, gentlemen, you would carry with you, in your examinations of this subject, the principles that have guided you all along in the study of homeopathy. Examine the subject with the torch of a *Baconian philosopher*. Learn what you can from

your own observation, and from that of others upon whose testimony you can rely, as to the effects of etherization in parturition. It professes simply to suspend the animal power, by which the patient is rendered measurably unconscious of her suffering, while the organic power, under which the uterine contractions regularly progress, is not at all interfered with. Thousands of cases are cited in proof of the correctness of such a position. Add your own observations to the experience of others. Let us have the facts,—either in corroboration or falsification of such teaching. Accumulate the facts in the premises—collect them, as the student of nature does, in all the departments of the natural sciences—and when they are to be used in the deduction of a great law, when the time for *philosophizing* has come, physiology with its teachings, with what aid can be drawn from any collateral science, will be called into requisition in the establishment of this law. Truth is consistent with itself in whatever relation it may be found. Truth in one branch or department of science will never be found conflicting with truth in any collateral science, any more than the truth of revelation will be found conflicting with truth in nature, for, wherever found, it has one author, universal and consistent. Our views of truth may change; what we may have received as physiological truth—facts clearly demonstrated to have a foundation in nature—may yet teach us to be but physiological trash, that will be swept away as rubbish before a foundation can be laid for a correct physiological law.

While waiting, however, for the establishment of a law of action of anæsthetic agents, we will not reject what physiology plainly teaches us; but in the very imperfect state of this noble science, and especially that department of it which concerns the nervous system, let us take for our guidance simple facts, those that are taught us in our daily observation, in the full conviction that they will eventually lead us to the deduction of nature's law, and to clearer and more enlarged views of physiological action. What course did Hahnemann pursue? Did he busy himself, or stop to enquire how such and such things could be? Nay, he sought to learn what nature teaches, touching the action of remedies upon the system, from which he deduced the law of cure, leaving it to others to theorize as they might, or explain the rationale of it.

But to pursue still farther the physiological objection to the use

of chloroform, Dr. Meigs assumes that the pain of labor is functional, where he says, "should I administer the remedy for pain to a thousand patients in labour, merely to prevent physiological pain, and for no other motive, and if it should in consequence destroy one of them, I should feel disposed to clothe me in sack-cloth," &c. Now, the assumption that pain in labor is functional is an assumption not warranted by our present physiological knowledge. We have, as you will bear me witness, ever taught that pain attendant upon parturition is not functional, *i. e.*, inseparably connected with labour. Contractions of the uterus are functional, but no more necessarily painful than are the contractions of any other hollow muscle—the heart, stomach, bladder, or even the rectum itself. Pain is not then the result of the contraction of the womb, but of resistance to that contraction, depending upon conditions or disturbances in the play of affinities, which may be better expressed, and more readily comprehended, as an imperfect harmony of functional dilatibility of the uterine and adjacent organs, with the contractility of the uterus. This great physiological truth explains the fact that we find every degree of this inharmonious action, from that where labour is completed without any attendant suffering, to that in which the measure of it seems to be more than human nature can bear.

In corroboration of my position, that pain in the uterus is not functional, I am happy in being able to quote the opinion of Dr. Rush—expressed long before anesthetics were dreamt of—who was endeavoring to counteract the popular inference that the penal character of *the pain* in labor, involved a physical necessity for it.

He says, in his medical *Inquiries and Observations*—"By some divines these symptoms, and particularly pain, have been considered as a standing and unchangeable punishment of the original disobedience of woman, and by some physicians as indispensably necessary to enable the uterus to relieve itself of its burden. By contemplating the numerous instances in which it has pleased God to bless the labors and ingenuity of man, in lessening or destroying the effects of the curse inflicted upon the earth, and by attending to the histories of the total exemption from pain in child-bearing that are recorded of the women in the Brazils, Calabria, and some parts of Africa, and of the small degrees of it which are felt by the Turkish women, who reduce their systems by frequent purges of

sweet oil during pregnancy, I was induced to believe that pain does not accompany child-bearing by an immutable decree of heaven." The same author says, as if in anticipation of the discovery and use of *chloroform*, "I have expressed a hope in another place, that a medicine would be discovered that should suspend sensibility altogether, and leave the powers of motion unimpaired, and thereby destroy labour pains altogether. I was encouraged to cherish this hope, by having known delivery to take place in one instance during a paroxysm of epilepsy, and having heard of another during a fit of drunkenness—in both of which there was neither consciousness nor recollection of pain."

There are many notable instances of painless labor, where dilatation is effected—commenced and carried on sufficiently to have a full-grown foetus expelled, without more pain than often attends an evacuation of the bowels. We have notable instances, too, where the consciousness is impaired, as in convulsions, and yet the functional actions of the uterus progress as regularly and efficiently as though consciousness was not suspended. We have called your attention, too, as we have progressed in our course, to the fact that this *inharmonious action* or *disturbance* in the system would exist in so small a degree as to characterize the labour of *whole nations and tribes*, while another nation or tribe would suffer characteristically hard labours. The Ostiaks in one climate, and the inhabitants of the island of *Amboyna* in an opposite extreme of climate, suffer so little during natural labour as to be scarcely turned aside from their ordinary occupation, and when labour is completed resume at once their ordinary occupation. While females in *civic life* ordinarily suffer in proportion to the degree in which they partake of the refinements of civilization. The action of anæsthetics we claim to be the restoration of this harmony of action. In doing this, one of the first effects observable is an increase of the natural secretions, by which the parts are lubricated, thus favoring dilatation by taking off the resistance to the contracting efforts of the uterus, diminishing and suspending sensibility—thus preventing an exhaustion of the vital energies, by which the patient's strength is preserved to carry on the process of parturition—and at the same time taking off the disturbing influence which the *will* exerts during labour. So marked are these effects produced by etherization, that it has been frequently observed that no sooner was the patient

brought under its influence, than the os uteri, which up to this time had been rigid and dry, the vagina and external organs, swollen and dry, would be immediately changed as to their condition, and a profuse lubricating fluid be poured out over their surface.

Equally prominent is the fact, that in the cases recorded of the use of anæsthetics in labour, there has been an unusual preservation of the strength of the patient, by which means the patient has returned sooner to her accustomed occupations—has consequently escaped most of the diseases dependant upon the exhausted condition of the physical and nervous system.

On these points the testimony of those who have made trial of etherization in labour, both in this country and abroad, is concurrent. With such aid as chloroform renders, producing such important changes in the organism, how changed do the duties of the accoucheur become. The assistance he may be called to render or manipulations to perform, are promptly and efficiently rendered; while he himself is saved from that harrowing of feelings necessarily attendant upon his witnessing the cries, groans, and agonies so expressive of that intensity of suffering that characterizes some conditions of labour. Professor Simpson says it is highly probable that etherization may come, in process of time, to be confined to the practice of midwifery.

The advocates of anæsthetics in midwifery, therefore deny that all that is obtained under etherization, is the allaying of pain. If, however, it was true, that this was all that was gained, viz., the *allaying* or *preventing* of pain, it would still be entitled to our consideration. In the practice of surgery, the use of ether inhalation became common throughout our country before more was claimed for it, than that it was an alleviator of pain; whereas, the relaxation of the muscular system obtained by it, has materially influenced surgical treatment by enabling the operator more certainly to diagnose otherwise obscure and doubtful cases, as well as given him a more complete control of the patient, by taking away the disturbing influences of the will—allaying muscular irritation, and thus securing more fortunate results in the most critical operations that he is called to perform. Strange as it may appear, comparatively few have carried into their obstetric practice the trial of a remedy that has done more for science and suffering humanity, than any other discovery which belongs to our age. And stranger still is

the fact, that in our own country, where the honor of this discovery belongs, its introduction into practice has been more strongly contested than anywhere else. Yes, far different have been the trials made and the verdict passed upon the use of anæsthetics abroad, from what they have been in our own country—the land of their birth.

Professor Simpson of Edinburgh, says—"In midwifery, most, or all my brethren in Edinburgh, employ it constantly. The ladies themselves insist in not being doomed to suffer, when suffering is so totally unnecessary. In London, Dublin, &c., chloroform gains converts to its obstetric employment, every day. No accidents have as yet happened under its use, though several hundred thousands must have already been subjects of it. Leadam, the author of one of the best treatises on diseases of females (*Homœopathic treatise*), says it cannot be doubted that whatever diminishes the duration of labor, diminishes in some degree, the danger, as well as the liabilities to disease in the puerperal state, and in abating the intensity of the throes of labor, it tends to the same good results; and farther adds, the statistic returns of operations performed under the use of anæsthetic agents, prove that the danger is continually lessened; and it is tolerably certain that they will be found to diminish and remove also, in some degree, the perils as well as the pains of labor.

While a trial of anæsthetics in parturition is being made in almost every part of our country, and wherever made, favorably regarded, is it not singular, says Dr. Channing, to find that in the city of our distinguished countryman, Dr. Rush, where was his fame, and where is his grave?—that the great discovery of the age, the remedy of pain, should meet with the most uncompromising opposition. Is it not singular, he continues, that the power of fact, the origin and nutriment of all true philosophy, should not be felt and acknowledged in the very atmosphere of medicine and its collateral sciences; upon those who sit in the seats of the prophets, their mantles have fallen so gently, that they seem hardly to be felt.

PHYSICAL EFFECTS OF CHLOROFORM.

The case of Dr. Beale, which has painfully affected this community during the present winter, and two others analogous to it, reported in the French Journals, have given a deep interest to the

general medico-legal question, as to the value of testimony given by a patient under the action of anæsthetics. The question propounded to the medical jurist, touches the competency of a witness as to what transpires within or around him during the period of etherization? For instance, a man is accused of violating the person of his patient while under the action of chloroform. Is the patient a competent witness as to what transpires during such action? In the consideration of this question, we shall have occasion to inquire as to the physiological condition of the physical and mental organism.

After the inhalation of an anæsthetic, there is a sensation throughout the body of tingling or pricking, as though the limb was in a state that is described as of sleep. This is often observed before there is any other perceptible effect. The same sensations will be experienced at the moment of returning consciousness and sensibility. As regards the effects upon the brain, there is a period of excitement—of stupor or insensibility, and of recovery from it.

The stage of excitement is announced by sensations of pleasurable emotions, with noise in the head, sometimes slight, oftentimes quite annoying—a noise like that made by the rolling of a railroad car, or the motion of machinery in a mill; sometimes a dizziness or confusion of the cerebral phenomena—the ethereal aura seems to permeate every part of the body; as the patient passes from this state of excitement, which is short, into that of insensibility, a glow of warmth pervades the body—it seems light and buoyant, too light for earth—the hearing becomes obtuse, and the sense of sight obscured, and that of touch, benumbed. External objects are presented to the mind as an uncouth, mis-shapen mass, or else distorted or hideously disproportioned—the muscles become gradually relaxed, and the state of insensibility and unconsciousness perfectly developed.

Of the state of insensibility, there is far more uniformity than of the absence of consciousness. While patients are ordinarily unconscious—commonly, perfectly so—yet occasionally they will retain such a degree of consciousness as to know and remember everything that is said within their hearing; the patient may not, the meanwhile, betray the existing consciousness—a perfect repose exists—not a word, not a motion, not a sign indicates its existence; and yet, when the patient comes out of this state, there is the most per-

fect memory of what has been said and done. This state is but rarely observed.

But in conjunction with this, recorded facts respecting ether inhalation, warrant the assertion that in many cases the recollection of what has passed is confined to the inward mental perceptions—to dreams and illusions of fancy which have all the vividness of real occurrences; and the recital of such events having made upon the mind all the impression of veritable facts, will be related and attested to as though they had an existence. Where these illusions are thus vividly impressed upon the mind under etherization, it is not unusual to find patients, the subjects of them, who will utterly refuse to believe them to be disordered perceptions.

We may as distinctly announce, that in etherization, the patient may or may not exercise his will; if the unconsciousness be perfect, he will have none to exercise, for he has no knowledge of what is transpiring around him. If imperfect, he will exercise it or not, according to the pleasurable or trivial character of the impression, or the painful and revolting one. The muscles, it is true, may not obey the mandate of the will, it will nevertheless be made, and in the remembrance of what transpired, will there be the remembrance of the exercise of such a volition, though there was an inability to carry that will into execution, as distinct as any sensation attending upon the act itself. And according to our experience in noting mental perceptions, the patient will be far more likely to have a painful or revolting conception so indelibly fixed upon memory's tablet, as to make it difficult to disabuse the mind of its distinct existence as a reflection of an existing fact.

The crowning glory of etherization is that sensibility is suspended—the power by which impressions that are made upon the organism are perceived, is lost for the time being. If the patient be in labor, it advances; but there being no sensibility, it is without pain—if it be in the process of a surgical operation, the strokes of the knife, ordinarily the most painful, seem to the patient, like the drawing of lines upon the skin, and the extraction of deep tumors has been compared to the crackling of hair between the fingers.

The response of the patient to whatever impressions are made upon the organism, is like the response of an automaton.

The recovery from this state of insensibility is ordinarily sudden, with a short interval of confusion of mind, very like to that we ex-

perience in awakening from a deep sleep. Dr. Forbes describes the physical state under the influence of ether, as one in which generally, the sense of external impressions becomes at first confused, then dull, then false, with optical spectra, or auditory illusions, general mental confusion, and then a state of dreaming or utter oblivion. In a majority of cases the mind is busy in dreaming; the dreams being generally of an active kind—often agreeable—sometimes the reverse—occasionally most singular; and frequently a great deal is transacted in the few short moments of this singular trance. Many of the patients who have undergone the most dreadful operations—such as amputations of one or both *arms* or *thighs*, extraction of the stone, excision of bones, extirpation of the mamma, have readily detailed to us, and most with wonderful thankfulness, the dreams with which, and *with which* alone, they were occupied during the operations. The character of the dreams seemed to be influenced, as in ordinary cases, by various causes, immediate or remote, present or past, relating to events, or flowing from temperament. A good many seemed to fancy themselves on the railway, amid its whirl, its noise and smoke; some young men were hunting, others riding on coaches; the boys were happy at their sports in the open fields, or in the filthy lane. The lone Londoner was in his old haunts carousing with his fellows; and our merry friend *Paddy*, of the London Hospital, was again wielding his *shilela* in defence of his friends. Others of milder mood, and especially some of the women patients from the country, felt themselves transported, suddenly, from the great city and the crowded hospital, to their own quiet home in the distant village, happy once more, with their mothers, and brothers and sisters.

As with the dying gladiator of the poet, the thoughts of these poor people “were with their heart, and that was far away.” Some seemed transported to a less definite, but still happy region, which they vaguely indicated by saying they were in heaven. It is with this psychical condition that as medical jurists we are concerned to be acquainted. The etherized person is not drunk, is not intoxicated, and yet there is a striking analogy in the two conditions—the loss of consciousness, the complete insensibility is more rapidly *developed*, and is more fleeting in its character, than when produced by alcohol. And yet such is the influence of etherization upon the mental organism—so perfectly is the relation of the subject of it

with the world around him—deranged, that he may be said to have that relation temporarily *severed*; so far at least, as a correct perception of external objects are concerned, or his personal accountability for internal motions.

How soon such a condition is obtained after the inhalation of the ethereal fluid, it is impossible to say, for so rapid is the accession of this state—especially that of insensibility to mutilating motions upon the body—that the patient can have no correct perception of what is transpiring around him. He may look on, (as he has done in many instances,) as an unconcerned spectator—his own limbs being the meanwhile in the process of mutilation. One under the operation of chloroform for the reduction of a strangulated hernia, fancied himself in his far-distant native country. Another, a young lady, under its action, while a painful operation was being performed by Velpeau, fancied herself seated at a dinner table, in company. An operation was performed upon the forehead of a dentist of this city—he said that though his eyes were shut, he saw every cut of the knife, and the shape of the wound, but what was better than all, this cutting seemed to him to be done upon some body *else*. A lady dreamed that she was at *Cape May*, and was going into the *surf*, and that while in the water, she was attacked by a shark, which held her fast, but without pain, till the company present extracted his teeth, and thus released her from his jaws.

A friend of mine, Dr. Clark, of Newark, has just published a case of hallucination of mind, lately occurring in one of his patients in that city, that shows still more conclusively the fact we are attempting to establish, *viz.*, that little reliance should be placed upon the testimony of one under the action of anæsthetics; so deranged are his perceptions of external objects, or of what is transpiring around him, or even of his own internal consciousness. His patient, under the *action of ether*—the meantime lying in bed in his sick chamber—imagined his physician was castigating him, and that under it, and to escape from the hands of the castigator, arose from the bed ran from his house, and around an entire square, back again to his house and room, followed all the way by the doctor—and that even now, after recovering from the disease, cannot be prevailed upon to believe it was not so; although the improbabilities are so great, that he could not have done it undressed, enfeebled as

he was, and the alleged fact so entirely at variance with what he should expect at the hands of the physician.

Many such instances might be adduced to *prove* that in the state of anæsthesia, *on the one hand, vivid impressions of objects and scenes*, that had an existence only in the imagination, were so *daguerreotyped* upon the brain, that no improbabilities of their occurrence—no incongruities in the grouping, would eradicate that impression—while, on the other hand, even the actual inspection of operations upon their own systems, so severe in character, as to demand a summoning of all the energies of the operator for their performance; have seemed to themselves, as airy visions, and things that were not. And that during this state of utter oblivion, the mind may be busily engaged in its own inward perceptions—having so little pertinency to what was transpiring, as not to teach the subject whether a tooth was being removed from her own person, or a shark's tooth that was holding her fast, was being pulled out, by the persons she had summoned to her aid—or to distinguish by the sensations produced, a painful operation the patient was undergoing from the pleasureable excitement of a dinner scene.

“These perceptions shape themselves into dreams entirely similar to natural sleep, being *grotesque and improbable*, cheerful or *painful*, according to the temperament, occupation and habitual modes of thought of the individual.”

We might go on and occupy your attention for hours in detailing to you cases of the disordered conditions of the mind during the state of etherization. The mental machinery is in rapid motion, but being no longer under the control of the will, may be likened in its erratic and fantastic imaginings, to the working of the mind under protracted insanity, where some favorite idea has brought into subserviency to it even the physical organism, and constrained it to wear the livery appropriate to that of the personified hallucination. If these illusions are pleasant and cheerful, the subjects of them desire their continuance; if painful, they may make an effort of the *will* to throw off the external objects they fancy to make such painful impression; if the perception of such external object has really a foundation, as it often will when a tooth is being extracted, the hand will be raised to throw off that of the operator; if it has no foundation in nature, as in the little girl, who fancied when her tooth was drawn that she was blown from a locomotive,

sprang from the chair upon the floor, still unconscious of what was transpiring around her, the illusions will have a correspondence in the actions of the individual.

We have before *stated* that the crowning glory of etherization was that *sensibility* was *suspended*. We might have coupled with that, as almost equally interesting to us, the suspension of voluntary muscular action; the attainment of this, as well as that of insensibility, will depend upon and be proportionate to the perfection of etherization. For the most part muscular action, that at least influenced by the will, is temporarily lost; *volition* seems suspended, and the voluntary motions are in a state of quiescence. While this generally obtains, a lesser degree of etherization does not fully destroy muscular power, and still there will be no sensibility that will be accompanied by pain. We might here have quoted many cases in corroboration of this admitted fact—that the power of the will over the muscles is not so completely lost but that the patient will often make efforts to force the relaxed muscular system so into obedience to the dictates of the will as to make efforts to escape from threatened imaginary danger, or from real injury that is being inflicted upon the person. The muscles may or may not yield to such dictation; but whether successful or not, the *consciousness* of such efforts being made, will remain.

In the two cases of outrages upon the *persons* of females, while etherized for operations, the only two cases recorded, which occurred in France a few years since, there remained to the persons so outraged a consciousness of their efforts at resistance, though the muscles did not obey the dictates of the will, and those efforts were consequently ineffectual. But where etherization is fully attained, where the *power* of willing *resistance* is lost, so also will be the consciousness of a motive or an occasion for it. In other words, if the person of a female be *violated*, while so fully narcotized as to be *wholly helpless* and *unconscious*, she cannot be sensible of the outrage upon her, and will not therefore make any opposition to it. She cannot therefore afterwards describe with the minutiae of detail the manner and particulars of the *outrage*, and say she was incapable of making such resistance; neither can she retain the consciousness of making it, however ineffectual that resistance may have been. No fact can be more clearly established, than that, if her consciousness was lost, and the state of insensibility was per-

fect, she could have no knowledge of the outrage but from its effects.

In the two cases that occurred in Paris, before alluded to, neither the loss of consciousness or insensibility was perfect; the subjects of them described minutely the occurrence, and themselves as making resistance to the commission of the outrage, although that resistance was ineffectual. Most unfortunately for Miss Mudge, in the case of Dr. Beale, she described the outrage claimed to be perpetrated upon her person, as though taking cognizance of it, made no resistance, not even "*willed*" that resistance, and found she was incapable of making it, and yet claims to have cherished such a degree of sensibility, at once so keen and so blunted, that she could feel the puff of "*aura*," "the breath from his mouth upon her person," at the same time was unconscious that "any part of his person touched her person," or that "an entrance was effected, except that she felt pain."

Now is it not clear to your minds, that but little reliance should be placed upon the testimony of an individual under the operation of an agent, that so generally deranges the mental machinery, as to give to impressions, however false and incongruous, all the vividness of reality; impressions when related to sober minds, appear so utterly at war with reason and common sense, that not one in ten thousand but would smile at their grotesqueness.

The conclusion to which we are led, irresistibly, in the consideration of these facts is, that the testimony of one as to what transpires while in a state of anæsthesia, given in a court of justice, should have but little weight unless fully sustained, to say the least, by strongly corroborating facts, and more especially when such testimony is not in perfect harmony with physiological teaching, from the known psychical effects of chloroform upon the system.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO HOMŒOPATHY FROM THE FLORA OF BARBADOS.

BY FRANCIS GODING, M. D.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 719, VOL. III.]

[QUASSIA EXCELSA.

*Gall Tree.*DECANDRIA MONOGYNIA. GRUINALES, *Lin.* Bitter wood, *Wright.*MAGNOLIIS AFF., *Juss.*Lofty Quassia, *Miller.*

This tree grows to a large size in some of the other islands, particularly in Jamaica, * * * but at this time it is scarce in Barbados. The wood of this tree is intensely bitter, and employed in the same way as the *Q. amara*, or Quashy wood. It is said to be effectual in less quantity than the other, and frequently sold in London for the true Quassia, and is scarcely to be distinguished from it. It is in much estimation in the cure of dropsies, and no doubt useful in some stages of the disease. Mr. Lindsay says "the happiest effects result from the use of this medicine in obstinate remitting fevers from marsh miasmata, in agues which had resisted the use of the Jesuit's Bark, and in dysenteries of long standing. It is in daily practice in dropsies from debility, either in simple infusions or tincture, by itself or joined with aromatics and chalybeates. Dr. Drummond, an eminent physician, has used it in such cases with great success."

Dr. Wright observes that every part of this tree is exceedingly bitter, and even after it has been cut down and laid in floors for many years, whoever rubs or scratches the wood feels a great degree of bitterness in their mouth or throat. Cabinet work may be made of this wood, as no insect will live in it. It is more powerful than the Quassia Amara of Surinam. I have seen it useful in worms among children, when other medicines have failed.]

SWIETENIA MAHAGONI. *Mahogany Tree.*DECAND. MONOG. *Miscellanæ, Lin.*

Collins has entirely omitted the Mahogany tree, which abounds in the island, and furnishes the timber of that name. Its bark is

intensely bitter, and accounted febrifugal. It is probably not indigenous, hence its omission in his manuscript.

[GUAICUM OFFICINALE. *Lignum Vitæ.*
DECAND. MONOG. Gruinales, *Lin.*

The gum of this tree is the *Guaiacum* of our *Materia Medica*; but, according to Collins, the leaves, wood and berries are also used medicinally.

[CLETHRA TINIFOLIA. *Bastard Locust.*
DECAND. MONOG. Bicornes, *Lin.*

The bark of this tree is an excellent astringent, and often employed as such with great propriety.]

[BANNISTERIA FULGENS. *Fire Burn Bush.*
DECAND. TRIGYNIA. Trihilatæ, *Lin.*

The leaves of this plant are applied by the lower class of people to burns, with a view of abating the inflammation. I believe it is without much foundation. Hughes observes that the leaves of this plant, boiled to a consistency with hog's lard and other ingredients, is of service to fire burns.]

[SPONDIAS MYROBOLANUS. *Gully Plum Tree.*
DECANDRIA PENTAGYNIA. Terebintaceæ, *Lin.*

The leaves and tender buds are used in decoctions for coughs and catarrhs, and other complaints of the chest. They are mucilaginous, balsamic, and probably useful in these cases.]

[RHIZOPHORA MANGLE. *Red Mangrove Tree.*
DODECANDRIA MONOGYNIA. Holoraceæ, *Lin.*

Long observes of this bark, that it will tan more leather in six weeks than the oak bark will in ten, and that the leather is more durable for soles. He adds, a decoction of it is a powerful astringent,]

Dr. Borham commends its use. He tanned with the liquor of the bark his son's feet, who lost the soles of his feet by confluent small pox, and they became as hard and firm as ever. It is the Black

Mangrove of the English Islands, the *Mangle Colorado* of the Spaniards, and the *Paletuviæ* of the French.

[CRATEVA GYNANDRA. *Garlick Pear Tree.*

DODECAN. MONOG. Putamineæ, *Lin.*

The fruit is of a hot, nauseous taste, and has a strong fetid smell, somewhat like garlic.]

The bark of the root blisters like Cantharides. The leaves also have the same property, and are used to dress and heal a blister quickly. They are applied in severe rheumatic pains of the joints as a rubefacient, and, if retained long on the part, as a vesicatory.

[CANELLA ALBA. *Wild Cinnamon.*

DODECAND. MONOG. Meliæ, *Lin.*

The whole plant has a warm, aromatic, pungent and bitter taste, smells like cloves, and gives out its virtues best to a spirituous menstruum.

It was supposed by Linnæus and others to be true Winter's bark, (*Wintera Aromatica*,) but later observations have proved it to be distinct. It is thought to possess stronger powers. It is the true Canella Alba of the shops, and is imported from the Bahama and other Islands in little pieces rolled up into quills, thicker than cinnamon, and of a whitish color inclined to yellow.]

[EUPHORBIA TITHYMALOIDES. *Tithymaloides.*

DODECANDRIA TRYGINIA. Tricocceæ, *Lin.*

The whole of this plant abounds in a very acrid milk, which will blister and excoriate the flesh, with great pain and inflammation. It will destroy worms and warts. The milk absorbed on cotton, and applied to the tooth, is said to give ease in toothache; no doubt by its causticity destroying the nerve. Martyn says "that the points of arrows and the blades of swords rubbed with this juice, will cause the wound to be fatal."]

[EUPHORBIA HIRTA. *Milk Weed.*

Is a very milky plant, of a slight balsamic taste, but not acrid. It is reckoned by the common people a good alterative, and used as

such by some quacks. Browne observes that it is a powerful resolutive and deobstruent.]

[EUPHORBIA MACULATA. *Dove Weed.*

It has a balsamic taste, and is without doubt a very powerful alterative and diaphoretic. It manifests also strong diuretic and stimulant powers. This plant merits the attention of the practitioners of medicine, especially among the poor and laboring classes. It is cheap, and I know it to be efficacious. Decoction of the woods may be left to those who can afford it. I have administered the decoction of this plant in cutaneous affections with great success; and found that foul ulcers in relaxed and debilitated habits were much accelerated in their cure by its use.]

The Euphorbiæ have been placed by later botanists, since Linnæus, in Monæcia Monandria, in consequence of their flowers being separated. All the Euphorbias, which are very numerous, possess active powers. There are others, besides the above, growing in Barbados,—viz: *E. Glabra*, *E. Hypericifolia*, *E. Pilulifera*,—also mentioned by Collyns. One species has been introduced since he wrote, under the name of Indian Rubber tree—the dark purple spurge of sweet, which is very milky, and is said to be very poisonous. It is *E. Atio-purpurea*. In India the *E. Hirta* is used as a syphilitic remedy.

[PSIDIUM POMIFERUM. *Guava Tree.*

ICOSANDRIA MONOGYNIA. *Hesperideæ, Lin.*

The bark possesses a great degree of astringency, and answers well in tanning. It has been much extolled in diarrhœa and dysentery, and debility of the intestines, and is no doubt very useful in such cases.]

[MYRTUS ACRIS. *Bay-berry Tree.*

ICOSAND. MONOG. *Hesperideæ, Lin.*

The bark has an astringent taste, but with little of the aromatic one which distinguishes the other parts of the tree. The leaves have a strong, aromatic, pleasant smell and taste, and are used in baths, in such cases as require warm, stimulant remedies. A decoction of them is frequently given to cattle which are weak and have lost their appetites. They are no doubt stimulant, stomachic, and diaphoretic.]

[CAPPARIS CYNOPHALLOPHORA. *Dog's Willow.*
POLYANDRIA MONOG. Putamineæ, *Lin.*

Dr. Wright observes that the roots taste like horse-radish, and that Dr. Cavanne recommends it in dropsies.]

Lindley states that the bark of the root blisters like Cantharides. Its infusion is reputed to be diuretic, and has been employed with success in some cases of dropsy. The young buds and leaves are said to counteract the injurious effects of the manchineel juice. It is the *Pois mabonna* of the French Islands.

[ARGEMONE MEXICANA. *Hollyhock.*
POLYAND. MONOG. Rhadææ, *Lin.*

This plant abounds with a yellow viscid juice, which is said to possess the qualities of Gamboge. The seeds are also said to have the narcotic powers of opium, and to be even more powerful. The plant is nearly allied to the Poppy, and scarcely to be distinguished but by the capsules being half valved. It does not appear to be employed medicinally in this Island in any other way but as an application to ring-worms, which the juice will often destroy. It would seem to have been in frequent use in Jamaica and some of the other Islands. Martyn, who quotes from Browne and Sloane, observes that it is given in dropsies, jaundice and cutaneous eruptions, and is as efficacious as Gamboge. It is considered detersive, and generally used in diseases of the eye. The infusion is looked upon as sudorific, and the seeds a powerful narcotic: they have a warm, pungent taste, but it does not manifest itself for some time on the palate. The Spaniards first brought it into Europe under the title of *Figo del Inferno*, or the Devil's fig. In many of the Islands it is called yellow thistle. Hughes says the seeds are purgative, a thimble-full for the dose, and the juice is a sovereign remedy for old sores. Long relates from Barham, where, after a steer had suddenly fallen dead, several handfuls of the seeds were found in the stomach.]

The native doctors of India consider the juice, dropped into the eye, as a valuable remedy in ophthalmia and a good application in chancres.

[CLINOPODIUM CAPITATUM. *Hop Weed.*
DIDYNAMIA GYMNOSPAMUM. Verticillatæ, *Lin.*

The expressed juice is in general use among the lower inhabitants

for cleansing the mouths and throats of children who have ulcerated throats or aphthous eruptions.]

[BALLOTA SUAVEOLENS. *Musquito Bush or White Hop.*
DIDYNAM. GYMNOS. *Verticillatæ, Lin.*

It has a very strong but unpleasant smell, and is used for the same purposes as the hop shrub. Browne says it is a grateful alexipharmic and cephalic. Jacquin observes that it is a very odorous plant, and the people of St. Domingo use it in their baths.]

[OCIMUM AMERICANUM. *Wild Basil.*
DIDYNAM. GYMNOS. *Verticillatæ.*

The whole of this plant has a strong aromatic taste and smell, and is frequently used in resolute baths. The taste resembles that of the clove, whence it is more generally named Clove Basil in this Island. It seems possessed of strong powers. A decoction of it would probably be stomachic and diaphoretic. It is said to be a good vulnerary.]

[BIGNONIA LEUCOXYLON. *White-wood Tree.*
DIDYNAM. ANGIOSPERMA. *Personatæ, Lin.*

The juice of the leaves and young buds is thought to be an antidote to the venomous quality of the manchineel.]

[CRESCENTIA CUJETE. *Calabash Tree.*
DYDENAMIA. ANGIOS. *Putamineæ, Lin.*

A syrup prepared from the pulp of its fruit is thought useful in coughs, asthmas and complaints of the breast. The pulp has an austere, sweetish, unpleasant taste. * * It gives a black and indelible stain to linen, and stains the knife which cuts it.]

[LANTANA ACULEATA. *Wild Sage.*
DYDIN. ANGIOS. *Personatæ, Lin.*

The whole plant has a strong, aromatic odor, with a pungent, bitterish taste. Doctor Wright says "that *Lantana Aculeata* and *Lantana Involucrata*, particularly the last, are used by the black people of Jamaica in teas for colds, rheums, and weaknesses of the stomach. They are also used with alum for gargles."]

[LANTANA INVOLUCRATA. *White Sage.*

Wild Sage, *Browne.*

Rock Sage—Butter Sage.

DIDYNAMIA ANGIOSPERMA. *Personatæ, Lin.*

It has a strong aromatic smell, with a pungent bitter taste, and is possessed of considerable stimulant qualities. It is powerfully sudorific, and as such substituted occasionally for Garden Sage. It operates very speedily, and often produces good effects. A decoction of this plant is violently emetic. It is sometimes given to children, but I think it is too harsh for them. It is most useful in resolute baths.]

[RUELLIA TUBEROSA. *Many Roots.*

DIDYNAM. ANGIOS. *Personatæ.*

The roots are frequently used in fevers by the negroes. When fresh they have a little pungency, but when dry are quite insipid. Hughes recommends a decoction in sore throats.]

It is a favorite remedy among the negroes, especially the midwives, in retention of urine and suppression of the lochia, and in the latter case, vies with the well known Feline Aphrodisiac, the common catmint (*Nepeta Catasia*).

[SISYMBRIUM NASTURTIUM. *Water Cress.*

TETRADYNAMIA SILIQUOSA. *Siliquosa, Lin.*

It is without doubt a good antiscorbutic. In England it is used as such by expressing the juice and mixing it with acid.]

[CLEOME PENTAPHYLLA. *Coyers. Five-leaved Cleome.*

TETRAD. SILIQUOS. *Capparidæ, Lin.*

The plant is handsome, but when handled emits a fetid, unpleasant smell. The juice, mixed with sweet oil, is said to be a sovereign remedy for ear-ache, if poured into it warm.]

Hughes, in his history, alludes to this plant, as affording instant relief in cases of severe ear-ache; and I have been assured by several persons of its efficacy in this painful complaint. In Jamaica also, it is extolled among the negroes for its virtue in ear-ache.

[TAMARINDUS INDICA. *Tamarind Tree.*

MONADELPHIA TRIANDRIA. *Lomentaceæ, Lin.*

The bark and leaves have a strongly acid taste, which they readily

give out in decoction and infusion, and may be substituted occasionally for the fruit. The ripe pods contain a strong acid united to a saccharine matter, and are pleasant, although the acid is very powerful. They are laxative and refrigerent, with very considerable antiseptic qualities. A beverage made from the preserved fruit is diluent, gently laxative and antiseptic. The tamarind is an officinal medicine, and of very general use in Europe.]

[WALTHERIA AMERICANA. *Dialthea*.

Buff Coat.

MONAD. PENTANDRIA. Columniferæ, *Lin*.

It contains much mucilage, and is in frequent use with the common people as an emollient in coughs, asthmas and other complaints of the breast. Hughes says that a cataplasm of the pounded leaves is a good vulnerary.]

[SIDA JAMAICENSIS. *Broom Weed*.

Jamaica Sida, *Mill*.

MONADELPH. POLYANDRIA. Columniferæ, *Lin*.

It seems to possess some emollient qualities and laxative powers, and is used by the common people in complaints of the breast and affections of the bowels. The leaves are sometimes employed in washing linen, as they form a strong lather with water. "The leaves and tender buds," Browne observes, "contain a great quantity of mucilage and lather, like soap, with water." They are frequently used in shaving washes by such as cannot conveniently bear the smell or acrimony of soap. The leaves are purgative. I believe more may be expected from its emollient than purgative quality.]

Sida humilis and *S. angustifolia* are also indigenous, but Collins merely states that they are used for the same purposes.

[MALACHIA CAPITATA. *Hop Weed—Heart-leaved Malacia*.

MONADELPH. POLYAND. Columniferæ, *Lin*.

It is used pretty generally among the lower class of people as a gargle for the mouth and throat.]

[HIBISCUS ABELMOSCHUS. *Musk Bush—Wild Ochra*.

MONADELPH. POLYAND. Columniferæ, *Lin*.

The seeds have a very strong smell, resembling that of musk.

They are used by the inhabitants of the French Islands as a substitute for that perfume. Miller observes, "the French cultivate these plants in their American islands, the seeds of which are sent to France in great abundance, so that there must be some way of making them useful." In Arabia and Egypt they grind these seeds and mix them with their coffee, to render it more agreeable to the head and stomach. According to Lewis' *Materia Medica*, they seem to have a claim as a medicine to the cordial and nervine virtues experienced from most other substances of that class.]

[DOLICHOS URENS. *Cow-itch Vine.*

DIADELPHIA DECANDRIA. Papilionaceæ, *Lin.*

The pods are covered with rigid, pungent hairs, which occasion a most violent itching sensation, causing great pain, inflammation and redness if they fall on the skin, and cannot be allayed for some time. The negroes rub the part affected with dry dirt, which they say gives the quickest relief, probably by its roughness extracting the spicula. Dreadful as the effects are on the external parts of the body, yet daily experience convinces that they may be administered internally without danger or inconvenience. Some care must be taken in the exhibition, for the external part of the lips, if not guarded with grease, molasses or lime juice, are apt to be excoriated from the great irritation produced by the pungency of the hairs. These hairs of the pods are a most excellent and certain anthelmintic. The hairs, first plunged in molasses and scraped from one, two or three of the pods, according to the age of the patient, are generally a sufficient dose; it is given three days successively and omitted one, and then three more, until it seems to have effected the cure. Six doses are in general sufficient for a cure. It is a safe and efficacious remedy, and has been so considered by many eminent physicians in England. It is only to be gathered at one season of the year, but, steeped in molasses or syrup, it will keep for two years and be equally effective. Miller observes, on the authority of Browne, "that a decoction of the roots is reckoned a good diuretic and cleanser of the kidneys, and that a vinous infusion of the pods, (twelve to a quart,) is said to be a certain remedy in dropsy; the dose half a pint when made in beer. In the Windward Islands they make a syrup of the pods, which is said to be very effectual against worms." I would certainly recommend it as the most safe and cer-

tain anthelmintic of the numerous medicines of that kind. It is probable that the spicula acts mechanically, and the animal is tortured to death, not being able to escape from its effects on the soft external parts of these insects. It is a native of both Indies.]

This plant has been transferred from *Delichos*, and is the *Mucuna urens* of De Candolle. A strong infusion of the root, sweetened with honey, is used in India in cases of cholera morbus.

[*ABRUS PRECATORIUS.* *Crab's Eye Vine.*

Jamaica Wild Liquorice, *Mill.*

DIADELPHIA DECANDRIA. *Papilionaceæ, Lin.*

The leaves, branches and roots are mucilaginous and emollient, and in very general use among the lower classes of inhabitants in coughs and other complaints of the breast. It is, I think, full as efficacious in these disorders as the *Glycyrrhiza Glabra*, the true liquorice, and much better than that after it has been any time in this hot climate, where it quickly loses its mucilaginous quality. In old coughs and pulmonary consumption it will do all that medicines of this class can do—it will give momentary relief and palliation to some of the symptoms: but no cure can be expected from it or any other of that nature. Linnæus says the seeds are very deleterious. They are eaten in Egypt, but authors agree that they are the hardest and most indigestible of the pulse tribe, occasioning violent flatulencies in the bowels. Dr. Wright remarks that the seeds are emetic. He is not singular. Long observes that they are deleterious, and, after being bruised, cannot be taken without danger, and that the powder operates furiously upwards and downwards.]

[*INDIGOFERA ANIL.* *Indigo Weed.*

DIADELPH. DECAND. *Papilionaceæ, Lin.]*

The dye called indigo, the product of this plant, and of other species of *Indigofera*, has already been received into our *Materia Medica*, and is considered a formidable vegetable poison. Collins assigns no medicinal virtues to the plant itself, but the powdered leaves are used by the native practitioners of India in hepatitis.

[*EUPATORIUM ODORATUM.* *Christmas Bush.*

SYNGANESIA, POLYGAM. ÆQUAL. *Discoideæ, Lin.*

A cataplasm of this plant bruised is esteemed not only an excellent vulnerary, but likewise so great a detergent that it will not suffer the least proud flesh to grow where it is applied.]

Several species of *Eupatorium* were highly extolled as a remedy in cholera during the last invasion of that epidemic in Jamaica. They are most of them emetic and purgative, particularly *E. Cannabinum*. *E. Ayapana* is used in Brazil as a valuable repellant of the poison of venomous snakes, both internally and externally, and is said to relieve the dreadful anxiety which follows the wounds of venomous reptiles. *E. Perfoliatum* is a proved therapeutic agent.

[TUSSILAGO NUTANS.

Silver-leaved Plant.

SYNGANES. POLYGAM. SUPERFLUA. Discoideæ, *Lin.*

This is a little stemless annual, growing in rich shady places, and frequent in the intervals between the cultivated fields. It is esteemed a good demulent and pectoral, and much recommended in old coughs, consumptions and other affections of the breast. It contains a great deal of mucilage, and will no doubt be useful in nephritic cases. It appears to possess the same qualities and to be fully as useful as the European Colt's Foot (*Tussilago Farfara*), and goes more generally by that name in this island. I think it may be used in any cases, where such remedies are indicated, instead of the other; but emollient medicines are generally of the palliative kind, and promise no effectual cure. Dr. Cullen found the European Colt's Foot good in scrofulous complaints. I think the like good effects may be derived from our native one.]

[ARISTOLOCHIA ODORATISSIMA. *Junction Vine.*

GYNANDRIA. HEXANDRIA.

Sarmentaceæ, *Lin.*

It has a warm, aromatic taste, and is very bitter. The roots are large, irregular, and esteemed a good diaphoretic. It is much used in Jamaica as a substitute for the Virginian Snake Root (*Aristolochia Serpentina*), and seems to possess, in some degree, the same virtues. It is sometimes used by the practitioners of medicine as a cordial and sudorific.]

The *A. Odoratissima* is now rarely found in Barbados, but abounds in Jamaica, where it is termed *birthwort* and *contrayerva*. It grows on the north side of Jamaica, while another species, *A. Trilobata*, is met with on the south side, and goes by the name of bastard *contrayerva* by the negroes, with whom an infusion of its roots is a favorite stomachic. *A. Odoratissima* is an antidote to the poison of snakes, and an alcoholic preparation of the root,

combined with iron, is considered very effective in suppressed menstruation. There is yet another species growing near Carthagera, in South America—*A. Anguicida*—which is used to counteract the bite of the most deadly serpent, and hence called snake poison, or *contra capitan*. The Indian jugglers mix the juice of the root with their saliva, of which a few drops are introduced into the mouths of the snakes to be exhibited, and by which they are rendered stupefied and capable of being handled with impunity.

Lindley thinks it probable that the *Guaco* and this plant, *A. Anguicida*, are identical, resting this supposition on a leaf given to him as belonging to the genuine *Guaco*; but there is a diversity of opinion upon this point, which renders it very unsatisfactory to what plant is to be referred the really valuable *Guaco*. Thus Humboldt attributes it to *Mikania Guaco*, which is denied by Dr. Hancock, as possessing any of its powers; while others again, very conversant with the *Guaco* as a remedy in cholera, and a valuable antidote against the poison of the serpents of Spanish America, assign the claim of its merits to *Eupatorium Ayapana*. Certain is it, that there is no natural affinity whatever between *Aristolochia*, and the closely allied *Eupatorium*, and *Mikania*. From a dried specimen of the flowers and leaves, very much broken, in possession of Dr. Houard, who first distributed the *Guaco*, and from the fact of their having been obtained from a climber, the *Guaco* used by homœopathic physicians is very probably, *Mikania Guaco*.

[URTICA GRANDIFLORA. *Nettles*.

Great-leaved Nettle, *Mill*.

MONÆCIA TETANDRIA. Scabridæ.

The whole plant is armed with sharp pungent spicula, which irritate when coming in contact with the flesh, not unlike the cow-itch, but neither so painful nor so lasting. The juice of the young leaves and the buds are used by the common people in diarrhœa and weakness of the bowels. They are mucilaginous.]

[URTICA MICROPHYLLA. *Maiden Hair*.

It is said to be a good pectoral, and used as such by the lower class of people. It is mucilaginous, and has very little, but an herbaceous taste. A syrup made from this plant was formerly in use here.]

[ARUM SEGUINUM. *Dumb Cane.*
 MONÆCIA POLYANDRIA. *Piperitæ, Lin.*

The whole of this plant is extremely acrid. If the least bit of it be chewed, it affects the mouth, throat, tongue, and salivary glands, in the most violent manner, causing so great inflammation of the part as to render the person speechless for some time, by impeding the articulation. It does not appear to have ever caused the death of any person who has accidentally bitten the plant. Its acrimony is so great that the first impression is sufficient, no doubt, to prevent any part of it being swallowed. If it should get into the stomach, it must be by an act of resolute premeditation. Hughes says that the juice of the Dumb Cane, mixed with a certain proportion of fresh fat, is a sovereign remedy in cases of dropsy, applied externally as an ointment.]

This plant has been carried to the genus *Caladium*, under which appellation it has been received into our *Materia Medica*.

From Lunan we learn, that the juice in alcohol is "greatly narcotic and resolving,"—causing sleep and cures dropsy. It appears also from him, that Dr. Trapham's method of curing dropsies was the rubbing on the abdomen of "an ointment made of this plant, mixed with hog's lard or snake's fat."

CELEBRATION OF THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE
 BIRTH-DAY OF SAMUEL HAHNEMANN, APRIL 10, 1855, AT
 SANSOM STREET HALL, IN PHILADELPHIA.

Several weeks previous to the 10th inst., preparations began to be made for the celebration of Hahnemann's Centennial Birth-day, and at a meeting of the Homœopathic Physicians, a committee of arrangements, composed of Drs. C. Hering, J. R. Coxe, Jr., Ch. Neidhard, Wm. A. Reed and G. Reichelm, was chosen to arrange suitable exercises for the occasion.

Much credit is due to the members of the committee for the able and efficient manner they discharged the duties assigned them, and particularly to the Chairman, for the "*Historical Introduction*" to the programme of exercises, entitled "*HAHNEMANN IN THE CRADLE*," without which there would have been a serious abatement of the interest which was manifest on the occasion. We will merely add that the committee procured the services of the best vocal and instrumental performers in music, for the occasion, and the historical introduction, and addresses, delivered by E. Bayard, M.D., of New York, B. F. Joslin, M. D., of New York, and J. P. Dake, of Pittsburg, which we here append, and also the festivities at the close of

the exercises, severally contributed to enhance the interest and to leave a favorable impression. We sincerely hope for some good result to follow this ever memorable occasion, and that the great central principles which Hahnemann was the instrument of disclosing, for the benefit of mankind, will ere long, become triumphant in medicine.

HAHNEMANN IN THE CRADLE

A HISTORICAL ROMANCE.

MEISSEN, on the river Elbe, one of the oldest castles and boroughs of the Saxons, had been for many years the abode of their Princes, before they reached the electoral dignity. The Electoral Princes removed their residence to Dresden, and, after one of them, Augustus, had come into possession of the Crown of Poland, the old and deserted palace of his ancestor Albrecht, became the busy scene of the labors of workmen, potters, painters and chemists. One of these, a painter, claims our attention. A man of trust, in the confidential employ of his government; to see him and know him with his family, in his modest lodgings, we must see and know somewhat of the new and strange Institution, of which he was a part.

Though the time had passed, when the chemist sought to change the lower into the higher metals, when he essayed to make Gold, and did not know that the way to the Gold-mine lay in the opposite direction; still some remains of these ideas of the olden day were left here and there, and gained admission into credulous minds.

The expenses of the royal households in Dresden and Warsaw, had very much increased, to the great vexation of the Minister of Finance, and he was thus induced to listen to the representations of a young chemist, infatuated with the belief that he had solved the great problem, and could produce the much desired gold. Large sums had been expended, with no result except grief and fear of disgrace to minister, chemist and their supporters, when a real philosophical discoverer, the Baron of Tschirnhausen, stepped in to extricate them from their difficulties, by persuading the king, whose highest confidence he enjoyed, to erect a China glass manufactory under the superintendence of the same unfortunate alchemists.

China glass could, at that time, only be procured from China, and then only by way of Holland, whither it was brought at great expense. Tschirnhausen proved that it could be made out of an earth which he had discovered in several mines, within the dominions of the Prince. As mining was not then considered beneath the dignity of kings, this discovery gave rise to the anomalous and peculiar event, of the establishment by a Royal Prince, of a workshop, in which articles of trade were manufactured.

It is true, the Porcelain was made chiefly with a view to increase the splendor of the king's banquets, and the pomp of the royal court, and much was distributed in the shape of presents among Princes and Court-favorites; yet, some was also made for sale; and in 1709, the first cargo

was sent to the Easter fair at Leipsic; and in 1710, the old "Albrecht Castle," in Meissen, was turned into a manufactory of Saxon Porcelain.

The mines, or deposits of the earth, were kept secret; the whole process of preparation was confidentially entrusted to a few only, especially the art of ornamenting the China glass with colors, embellishing it with gold, and, what was most difficult, of decorating it with paintings, the true colors of which do not appear until after they have been burnt or melted in, by the heat of the oven.

All the Chemists and Artists employed, were sworn to secrecy; and, because in the early period of the existence of the manufactory, some deserters had offered the use of their knowledge to other Princes, increased care had been taken by the Superintendents of the establishment, to trust only men of known integrity and tried faithfulness, whose reputation was unimpeached in the communities to which they belonged.

Such a man was the Porcelain Painter, Christian Gotfried Hahnemann. He had a son born to him in the "Albrecht Castle," at Meissen, on Thursday the 10th of April, 1755, to whom, on the following Sunday, at his baptism in the Lutheran Cathedral of Meissen, he gave the name of Samuel, "one who is asked of the Lord."

And *his* birth do we celebrate this day, after one hundred years have been gathered to the past, after a century has gone by, more remarkable and eventful than any other in the world's history. And not we alone. Kindred spirits meet to-day in Boston and in Rio Janeiro, in London and in Paris, in Vienna and in Berlin. Meissen itself, the town of his birth, will be filled with his friends; and in Cœthen, his last place of residence in Germany, magnificent preparations have been made. Everywhere, all over the world, where the Light of the New School has entered into the darkness, the same is done.

When the father, in his delight, looked upon the little boy as he lay sleeping in the cradle, could a thought of this have entered in his mind? Could he have imagined, that so many years after, in a far distant land, and another hemisphere, reached in his day, only after long, tedious and dangerous voyaging, in that small town laid out by Penn on the river Delaware, in the wilds of Pennsylvania, known to him only from the narration of Missionaries, this day would be remembered? In that town, grown to be one of the great cities of the world, the birth-place of a nation's independence, a seat of intelligence, a nursery of science, and a home of the arts; so great a number, impelled by gratitude, would freely gather together, to do honor in solemn assembly to him, who lay there in his cradle, wrapt in the soft slumbers of innocence. Even the angels in their holy watch, could not have foreseen what was known to the Lord alone.

But what was it, that the father thought? It has been made known to us. While he looked upon the son so much desired, this was the thought: "If that boy is permitted to grow up, I will give him lessons in thinking." A great thought of a father, at such a time, one hundred years ago.

As he thought and determined, so he acted. An old man in Meissen,

who had forgotten the son, when he heard of his fame, said smilingly : "Many a time have I taken a walk with his father, and ever at a certain hour, he would say : 'I must go home now, I have to give a lesson to my Samuel, a lesson in thinking; that boy must learn to think.'"

And he did learn to think.

After he had studied the art he so loved, had searched into all the sciences, and had made many useful discoveries, had made his name known all over the land before he was thirty-five years of age; his dissatisfaction with the rules of cure, so preyed upon his mind, that while translating Cullen's *Materia Medica*, displeased with the theoretical explanation therein given, of the curative power of the Peruvian bark, the thought came into his mind, "I will take it myself, while in health, and prove it." With this first attempt, the morning light of a new day of medical science, the brightness of which should cover the earth, dawned upon him; for he found that the symptoms produced on himself, were similar to the symptoms of such cases of intermittent as he had seen cured by the bark, but not similar to those manifested in cases in which he had given the same specific, without effecting a cure.

This great truth was the germ which he nursed and cherished, and followed for twenty long toilsome years, during which it grew up, was developed and firmly established. And only at the end of that time did he publish his work, entitled "*Organon of the Healing Art.*" And his motto he inscribed on the title page : "*Aude sapere.*" "*Wag's weise zu sein.*" "*Dare to be wise.*" Such was the fruit of the thinking lessons. He dared to be wise, and he was wise.

It is remarkable that he was the first man in whom were united the two great ideas, of proving drugs on the healthy, and of applying them to the cure of the sick, according to the law : *Similia similibus*. This law had been mentioned often before. In an old Sanscrit book, it is said : "Poison is a remedy for poison." Greek authors have made the observation : "by similar things diseases are produced, by similar things given to the sick they are healed." The *Acta Sanctorum* contains a narration from an old manuscript, in which it is said : "In heaven the angels cure by the law, *similia similibus*; and not like the common physicians, by the law, *contraria contrariis*." And a long list of quotations could be given, from Basilius Valentinus in 1400, down to Shakspeare, in which it is repeatedly mentioned, that the like things will cure, but none of them thought of proving drugs on the healthy.

On the other hand, a great many physicians commenced proving drugs on the healthy, long before Hahnemann, but there were none who united therewith an application of these drugs to disease, on the principal of *similia similibus*, notwithstanding that common sense shows their intimate relation to each other : that one "is like unto the other." But common sense in scientific men, is not a common thing. Hahnemann's father had taught him to think.

After collecting facts, for years, in corroboration of this law, he observed

a case of poisoning by Belladonna, with symptoms similar to Scarlet Fever. He applied therefore, that remedy, in Scarlet Fever, "with fear and trembling," in small doses. A frightful increase ensued in some, a cure was effected in other cases. But he did not doubt his law, nor falter in his application. Like Columbus, when the needle, his only guide amid the tempests of an unknown ocean, began to waver and to point away from the north, still steered boldly to the west, so did Hahnemann take the boldest step ever attempted by a scientific man; a step, which even to this day is branded as visionary, whimsical, unscientific; a step which could have been taken only by one, who as a boy had learned to think; he began to administer in ever diminishing quantities, far beyond the bounds of all previous conception. It was this grand moral courage of the *man who thought as he had learnt*, which saved the newly discovered law. And whilst he persevered, and proved and established it by tests innumerable, he also proved and established, that the healing power does not belong to the crude medicinal matter, but lies within and above it, as the soul lies within and above the body.

After laboring thus for nearly a quarter of a century, in want and disgrace, and *alone*, yet full of courage and of hope, it was when he had nearly reached the sixtieth year of his life, that he met with one who was willing and ready to brave with him the calumnies of the world, for the sake of science and of mankind; Doctor E. Stapf, who still lives to see this day of glorious fruition of that good and brave old man's hopes and strivings, and may unite with us and thousands elsewhere, throughout the world, to celebrate the Divine Goodness for the gift of the man, through whom so great a light has been shed upon science.

And in *such* celebration, shall we and they but echo his own dying words. When in the last mortal agony of his parting life, his wife said to him: "Why shouldst thou, who has alleviated so much suffering, suffer in thy last hour? This is unjust. Providence should have allotted to thee a painless death." He raised his voice, and exclaimed: "Why should I have been so distinguished? Each of us should attend to the duties God has given him to do. None has any merit of his own. *God owes me nothing; I owe Him all.*"

DISCOVERIES OF HAHNEMANN—WITH A VIEW OF THE PAST AND PRESENT STATE OF THE MEDICAL SCIENCE.

BY DR. EDWARD BAYARD, OF NEW YORK.

THE man who fulfils the duties of the varied relations of life, should command the love and respect of his day. The man that develops a principle which shall improve the condition of his race, should live in their remembrance. But he who brings to light some great principle of nature essential to the preservation of the health and life of man and develops its laws, should command the respect and love of his day, live in their remembrance, and for all time receive their reverence and gratitude. And how greatly

should that reverence and gratitude be enhanced, if that principle so brought to light should have, ever since disease and death entered the world, been earnestly and dilligently sought for by the ablest and most gifted, but never found; and if the discoverer should have advanced in the field through all that is known to its very verge, and upon that dark unknown where men had groped, guessed, speculated and stumbled, and by the power of his genius had shed a light which dissipated that deep darkness which shrouded the great truths that lay buried there, thus making them his own and his fellow-man's forever.

Surely such a one has added to the fixed capital of the world, and most gloriously fulfilled his destiny. He has the right to say to coming generations, I have put into your hands power. Use it, but stop not there: bring to light all the unseen good which the loving kindness of God has in store for the children of men.

It is a general law of nature that man should labor, and not live alone on the inheritance of his fathers. It is one of the conditions of his moral and intellectual nature that he cannot stand still. It is the duty, and should be the ambition of one generation to increase the knowledge and happiness of the next. In the history of the human race it may be only now and then that men of superior powers start into existence—the workings of whose minds will be felt, not only on their own generation, but whose influence can never be lost.

When such men arise, it is natural, it is useful, it is wise, to study their works—to contemplate their power and greatness, not as hero-worship, but what was great and good in them to reverence, so that we may be warmed and stimulated by their bright example into noble exertions. With this spirit we have assembled here to-night to do reverence to one among the mightiest of the dead, who, by the great principles he evolved, lives still among us and influences us daily by his works, which live after him.

This day, April 10, 1755, a century ago, in Meissen, in the Electorate of Saxony, lying in one of the most beautiful portions of Germany, was born Samuel Hahnemann. A truer man, a riper scholar, a profounder philosopher, a greater discoverer, never lived. He turned the force of a mind characterised by powers of unequalled investigation, into the field of medicine, and we say, by the providence of God, became a physician.

The history of medicine is a history of sects and revolutions. I will not pursue its history down the stream of time, nor examine abandoned theories that in great abundance strew its course, and which merely show the ingenuity of man and his misdirected efforts. I will but consider what was known and unknown when Hahnemann entered the field of investigation.

Anatomy and physiology had been explored, and with scientific exactness every bone in the human body had been examined, their position and use ascertained. Every muscle which enveloped them had been carefully dissected and demonstrated from its origin to its insertion. Every blood-vessel, from its rise to its last ramification, had been traced. The great nervous system was explored in all its complex web, from its centre to its

last filament. The structure of the human body, with its organs, had been examined—some of these functions had been determined with certainty, others with probability, and others plausibly.

The chemist had made strides in knowledge. Paracelus had brought the reign of Galen and Avicenna to an end. He had taken it out of the hands of the gold-makers, and brought it into the service of the physician. Men began to distinguish between organic and inorganic substances. The principle of the process of combustion had been discovered and established.

The use of the scale and balance had shown the quantitative relations of matter, and had thereby opened new sources of knowledge.

But in the knowledge of medicines and their application, there was no advance—there was no certainty—there was no science.

Hahnemann felt this terrible deficiency in this most vital part of medicine; for he had made himself master of all the knowledge in the field of medicine to its very outposts, and then he exclaimed: "After I had discovered the weakness and errors of my teachers and books, I sank into a state of sorrowful indignation, which had nearly altogether disgusted me with the study of medicine. I was on the point of concluding that the whole art was vain and incapable of improvement."

Dr. Akenside had said, "physicians, in despair of making medicine a science, have agreed to convert it into a trade." Sir Anthony Carlisle had said, "that medicine was an art founded in conjecture, and that he never could discover any rational principle in a physician's treatment of a case, and that, therefore, it was all guesswork." We are told by the ingenious John Brown, that he "wasted more than twenty years in learning, teaching and diligently scrutinizing every part of medicine."

The first five passed away in hearing others, studying what he had heard, implicitly believing it, and entering upon the possession as a rich and valuable inheritance. His mode of employment the next five years was to explain more clearly the several particulars, to refine and give them a nicer polish. During the next equal space of time, because no part of it had succeeded to his mind, he became cold upon the subject, and, with many eminent men, even with the vulgar themselves, began to deplore the healing art as altogether uncertain and incomprehensible.

The darkness and difficulties which surrounded the subject, neither appalled nor paralyzed the genius or energy of Hahnemann. He felt that to restore to the form, worn and wasted by disease, the priceless jewel, health, was the highest achievement that man could accomplish, and he exclaims: "I gave myself up to solitary reflection, and resolved not to terminate my train of thought until I had arrived at a definite conclusion on the subject. This much is certain: an art of medicine exists, but not in our heads, nor in our system."

Men had examined anatomy and chemistry for the cause of disease and for their remedies; but they proved themselves but preliminary sciences. True, chemistry explained certain appearances of the healthy as well as the diseased body, and was a guide to the preparation of various medicines.

But it failed in attempting to explain all physiological and pathological phenomena, or to point out the remedy; for while these accessory branches had advanced to a high degree of maturity, there had been no real improvement in the treatment of disease.

How does it happen that in the centuries since *Æsculapius* lived, this, so indispensable an art of medicine, has made so little progress? Because man, up to this time, had fixed his attention with absorbing interest upon the conditions of matter as they were presented to the senses; but took no note—made no inquiry into the laws of vitality which really governed and controlled them. That was as completely hidden from the corporeal and intellectual eye of man as was electricity, of which it has been said that a thousand years elapsed from the birth of natural philosophy, ere the human mind had obtained the slightest notion of the existence of this, the most stupendous power in nature—a power performing the most important part in all the alterations of inorganic matter and all the processes of vegetable and animal life.

True, the existence of vitality was known, but its laws had not been explored or ascertained: like gravity, observed, but the laws of this remained unexplained until brought to light by the genius of Newton. Thus, in this controlling power in the medical art, vitality, there had been no examinations up to the time of Hahnemann. The ground had been unexplored, untrodden. Upon this subject rested darkness, and alone on this field did the genius of Hahnemann enter. No one preceded him. He brought its laws to light. This field was the summit level of them all. He perceived first the law of cure, based on the principle of resistance and reaction, and demonstrated it as a law of the vital power.

By this elastic spring of man's nature, the source of his physical and intellectual growth, he resists the dissolving heats of the torrid zone and the solidifying cold of the Arctic region. His increased endurance under labor is the result of this law. The light and elastic medium that presses us on every side—the air we breathe—the food we eat—all are charged with active agents inimical to life; but if not in excess, the very spirit of resistance to their action, that law of vitality, keeps them strong and full in its natural and equal flow, which is health.

It was Hahnemann, then, who brought to light this great principle, that whatever disturbs the current of life, that current will re-act against it with certainty, unless utterly overwhelmed.

This principle is the basis of the therapeutical law of homœopathy, that like will cure like, if a cure can be wrought.

Hahnemann as he viewed this law as applied to disease, thus exclaimed: "The result of a treatment so conformable to nature, may be confidently depended upon. It is so perfectly, without exception, certain, so rapid beyond all expectation, that no method of treating disease can show anything at all like it."

As Hahneman advanced in the examination of these laws, he demonstrated that "every simple medicinal substance, like the specific morbid

miasmata (small pox, measles, the venom of vipers, the saliva of rabid animals, &c.,) causes a peculiar specific disease—a series of determinate symptoms, which is not produced precisely in the same way by any other medicine in the world.

“As every species of plant differs in its external form, in its peculiar mode of existence, in its taste, smell, &c., from every other species and genus of plant—as every mineral substance, every salt differs from all others in both its external and internal physical qualities, so do they all differ among themselves in their medicinal properties, that is to say, in their morbid powers; each of these substances effects an alteration in our state of health in a peculiar determinate manner.”

Hahnemann was the first man who ever pointed the way by which alone this great and important truth could be obtained; and he says, “To penetrate profoundly into this course of knowledge, we administer, these medicines experimentally, the weaker, as well as the stronger, each single and uncombined, to healthy individuals, with caution, carefully removing all accessory circumstances capable of exercising an influence. We note down the symptoms they occasion precisely in the order in which they occur, and thus we obtain the pure result of the form of disease that each of these medicinal substances is capable of producing, absolutely and by itself, in the human body.”

Hahnemann, with toil and observation, laid the imperishable foundation of our materia medica—a foundation upon which all succeeding generations may build, but cannot alter, because it is based upon the nature of things.

Hahnemann further discovered a law of vitality, that “in the action of simple medicines on the healthy human body, there occur, in the first place, phenomena and symptoms which may be termed the *positive* disease to be expected from the specific action of the medicinal substance, or its positive primary, (first and principal,) effects.”

“When this is past, there ensues, in hardly appreciable transitions, the exact opposite of the first process; there occur the exact opposite symptoms constituting the secondary action,” which is the resistance of the vital power to the direct action of the specific.

Hahnemann further discovered as a law of vitality, “The internal essential nature of every malady, of every individual case of disease, as it is necessary for us to know it, for the purpose of curing it, expresses itself by the *symptoms*, as they present themselves to the investigations of the true observer in their whole extent, connexion and succession.

“When the physician has discovered all the observable symptoms of the disease that exist, he has discovered the disease itself; he has attained the complete conception of it requisite to enable him to effect a cure.” What a boon was the announcement of this discovery to suffering humanity, to learn that there is an unerring certainty in ascertaining disease, and in the application of the remedy.

All honor to the man who rescued medicine from hypothesis and uncertainty, and made it a science.

Hahnemann further discovered the extreme sensitiveness of disease to medicinal action. He says: "None but the careful observer can have any idea of the height to which the sensitiveness of the body to medicinal irritations increased in a state of disease. It exceeds all belief when disease has attained great intensity.

When men laugh with incredulity at the small doses given under the homœopathic law, and deny they can produce any effect, they but show their perfect ignorance of the condition of disease and the medicinal substance acting on it.

Now we can understand by the discoveries and establishment of these laws by Hahnemann, how anatomy fails in determining a remedy for disease. We see the anatomist busy in separating with the knife, the saw, and by maceration, every part that can be separated; and by the power of the microscope he searches for the cause of the disease, and as Hahnemann has well said, "He sees only the outside of organs—their grosser substances, but into the innermost depths of their being, and into the connection of their secret operations, no mortal eye can ever pierce. We may see the structures altered in color and form, in part destroyed, their secretions changed—but that is not disease, nor the cause of disease—it is but the effect of disease."

They were looking in the wrong direction for that which they would find. They were looking upon dull, inert matter, which had no movement except by the force of the vital power, in whose current alone could be found the cause of disease—a current which, when it flows fully, equally and undisturbed through the complex frame of man, moves the wheel of life in healthful action.

Now we can understand by the light of these discoveries how Chemistry fails to determine a remedy for disease. "She can resolve man's frame to its constituents, examine the flesh, the bone, the blood and secretions, reducing all to their ultimate elements, proving him to be but walking condensed air, (solidified and liquefied gases)." But she cannot point out the nature of, nor analyze one throb of anguish. Her boundaries were reached with the analysis of matter, for here commenced the reign of vitality. True, she can weigh by the scale, and balance the substance of the nerves, and resolve it to its elements, but she can take no cognizance of the forces that flash through their filaments and pervade them to their minutest ramifications—sensations of pleasure or pain. This is the domain of vitality.

In analysing the normal and abnormal structure and secretions, showing their minutest variances, she is but pointing to the consequences of diseased action; she cannot reach its causes, nor designate the remedy.

From a knowledge of this law we can now learn how cures are wrought—how relief is brought to the sufferer, and appreciate their worth.

We can now perceive the principle upon which all medicines must act—

no matter under what system they may have been given, either in the past or at the present time. They must, in influencing the vital power, have relieved by the primary action of the medicine administered, producing a new disturbance—another disease—Allopathia. Or, by the secondary action or resisting power of the vital forces—Homœopathia.

In the first case large doses must be given sufficient to act on the healthy part, producing an impression. In the second case there is required a minute quantity of a similar irritant, acting on the already excited system, and by the resistance it arouses, sweeping away disease and restoring the equilibrium.

A knowledge of these laws show the damage arising from the first or revulsive mode of treatment, by the exhibition of large doses, which rely on the primary action of drugs. For if the disease is profound, which is sought to be relieved on this principle, the remedy administered must be still more profound ere it can create the revulsion; and thereby the resisting power of nature is frequently struck down paralysed by the strength of the impression produced, and though recovery may be slowly induced; yet an injury is always inflicted proportioned to the shock received, and if often recurring, finally breaks down and prostrates all power of re-action. Then, it is said, the constitution has given way.

This is one of the dangers of the exhibition of large doses on the allopathic principle, and one to which there has been many victims, bringing on manhood the infirmities of age. But there are other dangers, and some more suddenly fatal in their results: as when it unfortunately happens that the medicine is prescribed by one unacquainted with these principles that our great master made his own, and the drugs in their effect on the human frame is similar to the action of the disease sought to be remedied, there happen consequences beyond all control.

The remedy given, may, in the classification of their *materia medica*, be designated as mild, simple, alterative, an anodyne, a tonic. But its action on the vital power is not governed by such distinctions, and the patient under its supposed mild influence, receives a blow against which there is no rallying. The power of reaction succumbs under the accumulated power of disease and remedy, and death is inevitable. In illustration of this danger, I will relate a case of which I was an eye-witness.

An interesting child of twelve years of age, a girl, was sent from her home in the South, for the purpose of education, to New York. The rigor of our climate was too much for the constitution of the child, and she was attacked with pneumonia, combined with pleurisy, which is an agonising form of disease. She was placed under homœopathic treatment, and through its principles, the difficult and short respiration, hard cough, and sharp stitches, passed away, and the child was held by all convalescent; when her relative, who is himself an allopathic physician, arrived for the purpose of taking her away.

Her case and treatment was detailed to him. He admitted her convalescent, but having no knowledge of these laws which Hahnemann dis-

covered, and seeing the weakness that still existed consequent upon her condition, proposed a few grains of quinine as a tonic, to restore her quickly to her natural vigor, desiring her attending physicians to lay aside the homœopathic view of treatment and adopt his measure. This, of course, was impossible, and refused by them, preferring to retire from the case which they had brought to such a satisfactory issue.

He took the treatment into his own hands and gave her quinine; and I must say he was fully sustained in his view by the writers on his *Materia Medica*. I will quote from *Dunghison's Therapeutics and Materia Medica*: "Cinchona is an admirable tonic as well as anti-periodic; and, as such, is largely used. Most, however, of its medicinal virtues are contained in the salts of its alkaloids—especially the sulphate of quinine, which has, therefore, almost supplanted it. Like tonics in general, apprehension need not be entertained in doubtful cases, that cinchona may act injuriously as an excitant."

Within twenty-four hours after the administration of the drug, the disease under which she had been labouring returned with increased force, and about the tenth day the child died under the distinct action of the disease reproduced. That such determination was the result of the remedy—the so-called tonic—I will quote from *Hahnemann's Materia Medica*. The effect of cinchona, as tried on the healthy organism, is thus noted: "Pleuritic stitches in the side, with great heat, violent congestion to the chest and violent palpitation of the heart." And thus the poor young girl sadly confirmed, in her sufferings and death, the observation of our master, and demonstrated the danger of prescribing without a knowledge of the specific action of the drug.

In the true homœopathic treatment there are no dangers. It never prescribes poisonous doses as a remedy; never attacks healthy parts, ploughing up the system in various directions and weakening the powers of resistance, the stamina of the constitution; but she gently provokes, by a similar irritant, the secondary action of the drug administered, and mildly woos back the disturbed vitality; by which operation she imparts health and strength to the enfeebled frame.

As we view the past and present, great truths like precious jewels, cluster thick around the head of our master, crowning him with a splendor never equalled by the kings of earth. The brightness of his diadem will never be dimmed in the ceaseless roll of time. Strange as it may appear, nevertheless, when the truth of this beautiful science was first discovered, prejudice raged like a consuming fire throughout the world, turning man's ingenuity to bitterness and vindictive vengeance against the few intellectual minds whose moral faculties, aided by divine power and wisdom, were called into exercise for human advancement. Truth is mighty, and must prevail over ignorance! The light begins to shine, and night is passing into day.

THE CHARACTER OF HAHNEMANN.

BY DR. B. F. JOSLIN, OF NEW YORK.

In regard to those qualities and achievements which most excite general admiration, the physician is surpassed by the surgeon and the warrior. The mere mechanic of our profession may extirpate a malignant tumor, or amputate a limb on which it is situated, leaving the patient in the last case mutilated, and the entire real disease in both cases remaining, latent in his body. Without undue disparagement to the skill which may be thus evinced, and which, manifesting itself directly to the senses, is appreciated by the unlearned and non-professional observer, we should award greater admiration to him who, in similar cases, effects a cure, real, deep and permanent, leaving the man in his pristine integrity, beauty and usefulness. How much greater glory still has been achieved by that medical philosopher, who has discovered and demonstrated a principle fruitful in such beneficent results, not merely in the circle of his own practice or his own century, but for mankind throughout the world, and for all future ages.

In the century which has elapsed since the birth of Hahnemann, there has not been born another human being whose services have equally promoted the welfare of man.

In a biographical sketch of Hahnemann, written by himself, he has described the character of his father, and the impressions it made on his own mind. These statements evince an appreciation of unostentatious goodness, of candor and truthfulness, and of the superiority of actions to professions, and of the practical value of religious faith and hope.

He says, "My father had the soundest original ideas in regard to what is good and worthy of man. These ideas he implanted in me. His leading principle was, that a man should be, and act out that which is in him, without appearance or parade; and this principle he impressed upon me, more by example than precept. Wherever he found an opportunity of doing any good, he labored with body and soul, and often without attracting any attention. Was it not my duty to tread in his footsteps? He discriminated between nobility and meanness of action, with a nicety and accuracy which did great honor to the active tenderness of his feelings. Herein, too, was he my teacher. His life was never in contradiction with his exalted views of the great Author of creation, of the dignity of the human race, and its heart-elevating destiny. From all this have I derived my internal tendencies."

No doubt, these virtues of the father had great effect upon the son; yet I am inclined to accord to the latter a nobleness, with respect to which not only was the influence of instruction great, and that of example greater, but that of his nature, and its Author, greatest. "*Nasciture non fit*"—born, not made, is, as to its positive part—not peculiar to poetic genius.

A poet himself, in the following lines, hints at hereditary qualities strongly resembling some of Hahnemann's :

“ How happy is he born and taught,
Who serveth not another's will ;
Whose armor is his honest thought,
And simple truth his utmost skill.”

His dependence on God is beautifully acknowledged in the following passage. After describing his four years' residence in Dresden and its neighborhood, with his family, which he calls the spice of his life, he adds : “ At the end of this time, in 1789, I came to Leipzig, with the view of being nearer to the seat of the sciences, where I am now awaiting the good or evil that Divine Providence may accord to each of my days, whose number is in its hands.”

In the then future days of Hahnemann he was destined to receive from Providence an inestimable boon for humanity. In 1796, his great discovery was first published, and Homœopathia thus born into the world, forty-nine years ago.

His autobiography extends only to the year 1791. His family add that “ the last years of his life, as above described by himself, constituted a most important turning point in his career. He had practiced his profession with decided success, whereby, as well as by his writings and numerous translations from English, French and Italian authors, with acute and judicious notes and additions, he acquired very considerable celebrity. His active mind was not satisfied with this ; on the contrary, he was dissatisfied with himself and the state of the medical profession. An idea of something better, even then, was continually before him ; and to seize this, to hold and form and ultimate this, he felt himself incessantly impelled.”

He was at one time specially incited to these investigations by love to his own family and confidence in God. The anxieties of the parent sought relief in the character of the Universal Father. This, and his previous rejection of allopathy, from a motive of general philanthropy, appear by an extract from a letter subsequently written to a distinguished medical friend, upon the necessity of a regeneration in medicine. He says : “ To become in this way a murderer or aggravator of the sufferings of my brethren of mankind, was to me a fearful thought. So fearful and distressing was it, that shortly after my marriage, I completely abandoned practice, and scarcely treated any one, for fear of doing him harm, and, as you know, occupied myself solely with chemistry and literary labors.

“ But, children were born to me, several children ; and in course of time serious diseases occurred, which, because they afflicted and endangered the lives of my children,—my flesh and blood,—caused my conscience to reproach me still more loudly, that I had no means on which I could rely for affording them relief. Where shall I look for aid, *sure* aid ? sighed the disconsolate father, on hearing the moaning of his dear, inexpressibly dear,

sick children. The darkness of night and the dreariness of a desert all around me; no prospect of relief for my oppressed paternal heart! In an eight years' practice, pursued with conscientious attention, I had learned the delusive nature of the ordinary modes of treatment.

"But perhaps it is in the very nature of this art, as great men have asserted, that it is incapable of attaining any greater certainty. Shameful, blasphemous thought, I exclaimed. What! shall it be said that the infinite wisdom of the Eternal Spirit that animates the universe could not produce remedies to allay the sufferings of the diseases it allows to arise? The all-loving paternal goodness of Him whom no name worthily designates, who dispenses, throughout all creation, life and happiness in rich abundance—shall it be said that He was capable of the tyranny of not permitting that man, made in His own image, should, even by the efforts of his penetrating mind, that has been breathed into him from above, find out the way to discover remedies in the stupendous kingdom of created things, which should be able to deliver his brethren of mankind from their sufferings?

"Sooner than admit this blasphemous thought, I would have abjured all the medical systems in the world.

"No, there is a God, a good God, who is all goodness and wisdom; and as surely as this is the case, must there be a way of his creation, whereby diseases may be seen from the right point of view, and be cured with certainty."

These feelings and convictions, together with medical science and experience, general learning and inventive genius, made the mind of Hahnemann a suitable soil for receiving that solitary seed which was ultimately developed into the homœopathic tree, that tree of earthly life for the "healing of the nations." That seed or germ of his future discovery was the providentially observed fact that Peruvian bark produced a case of intermittent fever.

The religious and moral character of Hahnemann was stamped with the cardinal virtues, reverence and obedience to God, love and well-doing toward man. He regarded himself as a humble instrument employed by the Infinite Goodness, the Universal Father, for initiating mankind into a course of investigation, which should eventually lead them to find good in all creation. Such must be the effect of extending his provings of medicines, instituted first for verifying the law of cure, and continued for aiding its application, which last led to the collateral discovery of the value of small doses.

Samuel Hahnemann was like Christopher Columbus, not only in the grandeur of his discoveries, but in perfecting them by self-sacrifice, diligence and perseverance. Each, for years, stood nearly alone in an incredulous generation, which despised their rational and pious enthusiasm as an idle dream. Each was animated with a confident expectation of conferring incalculable benefits on man, in accomplishing a work predestined by Infinite Goodness and Wisdom.

The provings of Hahnemann bear the stamp of conscientious exactness;

and he took great interest in those which others made, in the same manner. On receiving some, in his 58th year, from Dr. Stapf, he writes in return: "The observations are honest and accurate. Continue to work in so faithful a spirit. What we do in this branch is a religious act, for the good of mankind. The world may acknowledge our pure, benevolent intentions, or not; the Holiest, Omnipotent, looks down upon our efforts with pleasure; and only for Him, and our heart, do we live here and hereafter.

If Hahnemann seemed occasionally severe towards those false-reasoning opponents who ridiculed his system, or those spurious friends who corrupted it, his satire was not the offspring of hatred or mortified pride. His rebuke was not less instructive than pungent; it confounded to illuminate and wounded to heal. Viewed from his own stand-point, and in the light of truth, it was no exaggeration, no malicious onslaught for the gratification of his personal feelings, nor any trick of charlatanism for the advancement of his private interests.

Hahnemann was more severe in the examination of himself. In his sixty-second year he wrote from Leipzig to congratulate his friend Dr. Stapf on the birth of a child. He says: "I, at least, have felt each confinement of my wife, each of those almost supernatural occurrences, deeply agitate my inmost life; and I have always tried to improve this dreadful moment, with its glimpse into eternity, for the cleansing of my character; and where I have detected any spots, envy toward my neighbors, or anything of a suspicious, hypocritical duplicity in my heart, or any trace of falsehood, or any disposition to speak or appear otherwise than entirely corresponded with my internal convictions—of all such I have attempted to purify my heart.

"In such an hour have I made an inviolable vow to cherish within me simplicity, honesty and truth; and partly in self-culture, as becomes a denizen of eternity, partly, in the benefaction of my neighbors, to find contentment and happiness beneath the eye of the Father of all living—the God of truth, whose universal presence always surrounds us; from whom we cannot conceal the inmost thoughts of our souls, and before whose holiness the holiest of us stands condemned. So have I striven, in that heart-quailing hour, to fashion an inner life, such as is required for our eternal existence, and our passage into the land of perfection."

As to Hahnemann's *scientific* character, time will allow only a few remarks, relative to his mode of investigating and enunciating the grand doctrine.

The discoverer of the universal law of medicine was strictly inductive in the mode of its demonstration. Gifted with extraordinary powers for observing and comparing objects and phenomena, and for reasoning from effect to cause, he modestly and judiciously commenced with obvious, simple and certain properties, then compared and generalized.

Had he started with higher or more interior principles, or professed to arrive at them, his transcendental critics might have adored his genius; and though we could not have regarded him as a sound philosopher or safe

guide, we might have admired the sublime audacity with which he took his stand-point near the centre of nature, and portrayed the subordinate principles and ulterior results thence emanating. Many an adventurous philosopher, with waxen wings, has taken his ambitious and lofty flight so near that central sun, as to melt those fusible supporters, and precipitate himself headlong into the sea. This is considered fabulous in regard to an ancient aerial adventurer, yet it represents transcendental anti-Hahnemannianism.

The Newton of medicine, like his astronomical prototype, wisely refrained from attempting to express the location or internal nature of the forces. The latter never pretended to determine whether the agency by which the heavenly bodies tend towards each other is situated within, between or beyond them, or is gaseous, ethereal, electrical or spiritual. His enunciation is designed to be understood in a practical sense. The formula is susceptible of application to useful purposes. Suppose any one is the imaginary or real discover of the nature of gravitation, he neither refutes nor supersedes the law, nor rivals its discoverer in affording any new data which may aid the astronomer in predicting the movements of the planets, satellites or tides, or in framing rules for the guidance of the mariner. Similarly abortive must be any project for superseding the Hahnemannian law.

In the enunciation of his law, Hahnemann evinced a genius not only logical, but practical. He perceived the impossibility of arriving by induction at any certain conclusion respecting the relation of the internal nature of the disease to that of the remedy; and he saw, with equal clearness, the uselessness of such an attainment.

The same is true, not only of the more but the less transcendental sense, for however great the probability of a correspondence between the principal or original seat of the disease, and that of the action of its unknown remedy; how is this remedy to be discovered, except by the similarity of its sensible effects to those of the malady? The law in any other than the Hahnemannian form, or some form substantially equivalent, is a mere useless abstraction.

The universality and immutability of the law of cure, its practical value in relation to man's dearest earthly interests, the scientific skill evinced in his mode of verifying it, and the facilities which his instruction and example have afforded his followers, in continuing its verification by medical practice, and widening the sphere of its application by new provings, all these secure the perpetuity of Hahnemann's fame.

We have met this day to celebrate a name, on which increasing honor shall be bestowed in every coming century. Those now assembled within these walls, and similar assemblages throughout Christendom, have the privilege of commencing these centennial celebrations. When the earth, in her majestic circuit, shall have revolved a hundred times more round the central sun, at that distant day, our posterity shall meet in vastly increased numbers, for the second great celebration, and recognize Hahnemann as the centre of attraction and grand luminary of the medical world; and then, for the blessings through him conferred on men, anthems of gratitude and adoration will again ascend to the Universal Father.

PHILOSOPHICAL VIEW OF HOMŒOPATHY.

BY DR. J. P. DAKE, PITTSBURG, PA.

In the constitution of our world there are three essential departments, Matter, Forces and Laws.

He who created Matter, imparted forces and established laws, has given to us faculties of perception and of reason by which we may view his handiwork, trace his unfailing causes, and even comprehend his wise designs in nature.

The first of these departments, embracing the material domain, and unfolding its treasures to our senses, has been the first to win our attention.

Traversed by lovers of learning from age to age, this once wild field has assumed the appearance of a garden, where each part is familiar and the whole in perfect order. All things now are known by name, and all stand forth as members of certain kingdoms, classes and species.

But the second department, or that of Forces, more remote from the eye of the common observer, has required a closer study to carry forward in it the work of generalization. To mark every change occurring in the relations and properties of matter, to gather those changes into groups, and thence rightly to trace the forces producing them, has required a closeness of discrimination possessed by few. Yet this undertaking, favored with the light of inductive philosophy, is not unsuccessful.

The third department, or that of Laws, being yet more difficult of access, has been the last to yield its treasures, and to reward the labors of the philosopher with rich discoveries. Although the objects forming the visible earth had been compared and mostly classified; and although their relations and movements were considered quite well understood, yet the great law of all physical laws, requiring all bodies to fall toward the centre of the earth invariably, when left free to move, escaped the old schools of philosophy, and remained unknown till the time of Newton.

Thus, from the most obvious characteristics of bodies, through all the changes occurring in matter, the search for general principles has been carried on. The splendid systems of philosophy, opening to us the mysteries of nature, tell how successful has been that search, and who have been the most favored in it.

Mechanics has its Newton, optics its Kepler, electricity its Du Fay and its Franklin, and we are here this day to thank the Giver of all Good, that medicine has its Hahnemann.

Although, from the birth of an art of healing, forms of matter, possessed of medicinal forces, were known to exist; and, although such substances had been gathered into a *Materia Medica*, and employed in millions of instances to relieve suffering humanity, yet the great law governing their action, and the obedience to which they cured, remained unknown to Hippocrates, to Galen, to Paracelsus, and to all who lived before the time of Hahnemann.

To those who ironically ask, why a merciful providence should so long have kept a suffering world in ignorance of so great and good a law, we answer, by asking in turn, why the same wise providence withheld from the eyes of the patriarchs, prophets and kings, "the face of His anointed,"—or why, again, the law of gravitation was not revealed to the philosophers of ancient Egypt instead of Newton?

Like all other branches of science or philosophy, medicine has had to pass through its successive stages of development. Medicinal matter was first known, then medicinal forces, and lastly medicinal laws. Much had to be learned by observation and experience, both in respect to human maladies and in regard to medicines, before induction could produce a principle or law of cure.

Empiricism had scarcely begun the work of gathering facts, when Hypothesis and Theory entered the field and began to rear their dogmas. But one after another their baseless fabrics have disappeared. Old plodding Experience has overturned and scattered them while clearing the way for his pyramids of facts.

It was reserved for Hahnemann in the purity of his love for knowledge and for mankind, to complete the pyramid of facts, whence springs, what is at once the law of science and the rule in practice, that a drug is capable of curing a disease, the symptoms of which are similar to those producible in the healthy by that drug when used in greater quantity.

Others having described the way by which Hahnemann arrived at this principle, and how upon it he reared a system of cure called homœopathy, it will be my endeavor, briefly tracing the line of truth from cause to effect, to reach it by reasonings *a priori*.

A body, or mass of matter, we find possessed of various properties or forces, such as the mechanical, the chemical, the electrical, et cetera. Some of these forces appear and act only in the living animal organism. We take upon our tongue a certain substance, and experience therefrom certain changes in the sensation and in our state of health. These changes, and thence the forces producing them, neither Natural Philosophy or Chemistry can explain. They must be studied in their own peculiar way; and thus studying we arrive at the conclusion that there is in nature a distinct class of forces, operating in their own sphere, in obedience to their own laws, and entitled to their own name.

Calling them the medicinal we will proceed to ascertain.

1st—Their origin—How they occur or exist.

2d—Their development—How they are prepared for trial.

3d—Their action—Where and how they operate.

4th—Their use—How they must be employed in the cure of disease.

I. THEIR ORIGIN.

They occur in all the three kingdoms of nature; although the vegetable and mineral have as yet, furnished all with which we are acquainted.

Unable though we may be to trace the invisible links connecting them

with matter, we know that they are attached to every homogenous atom of their native dwellings, and so strongly attached as to defy all mechanical efforts at their separation.

To some the solution of a drug, by means of water or alcohol, may seem to be a parting of the forces from their atoms; whereas, it is but a parting from each other of those very atoms, by intervening particles of fluid.

The pharmacistist may think himself able easily to disprove our statement in his process of percolation. But let him not begin the attempt till he has duly considered the size of atoms and their readiness to pass through the pores of his finest sipta.

Show me a tincture or infusion, having the taste, smell or any of the properties of a drug, without some of its material atoms, and I show you a man, eating, drinking and running upon the earth, without a body.

It is true, the medicinal atoms may be separated from extraneous matter; but from their indwelling forces never, except in the loss of their own identity. Some have entertained opposite views, believing that these may be transferred to other and comparatively neutral substances.

Had we no simple mode of accounting for medical phenomena, such a theory might claim our serious attention.

II.—THEIR DEVELOPMENT.

Since now these forces are so incorporated with atoms of matter, it follows that the absolute power of a drug mass, is in proportion to the number of medicinal atoms it contains.

Again, since matter can impart its forces only to that will, which it is in contact or close connection; and since such contact or connection can be only with its *external* atoms, it follows, that its relation or available power is in proportion to the number of its atoms made superficial.

For example, in electricity, the absolute amount of fluid contained in a solid cylinder of glass is very much greater than that contained in a hollow cylinder of the same external dimensions; while the relative or available amount is exactly the same in both.

To the senses, no more of the properties of a solid opaque body are operative than lie on its surface; therefore to increase its influence we have only to divide and subdivide it, in order to increase its surface.

Thus we see the difference between the absolute and available powers of a given substance: and hence draw the conclusion that the forces of a given drug are developed and increased, in proportion as their atoms are separated, spread out and thus prepared for contact. How far this development of forces, by the division of matter, may be carried, no mathematician may calculate.

It has long been a principal in natural philosophy, that matter is divisible *ad infinitum*. The ultimate atoms have never yet been reached, although by the aid of the microscope and other apparatus, the philosopher and chemist have gone far beyond what a few years ago were considered the utmost limits of attenuation.

We conclude, then, also, that the attenuation of medicinal matter can be limited only by the means employed to effect it; and finally, that the medicinal forces exist, beyond sight, smell or taste—even in the highest possible attenuation of a drug. Those who contend against this conclusion not only join issue with us, but also with all writers upon natural philosophy and chemistry.

III.—THEIR ACTION.

Having thus far considered the medicinal forces merely in their passive, we will now trace them in their active state.

We may observe here, that among all the forces operating in our world, each class has its own sphere, and therefore its own peculiar tests.

The mechanical, the chemical and electrical operate in matter, whether organic or inorganic, animate or inanimate; while those under consideration act only in the living animal organism.

The means by which we must detect the chemical, cannot reveal to us the electrical; nor by the tests for either of these can we discover the medicinal. Suppose, for example, we are unacquainted with sulphur, and a roll of it is offered us with the request that we ascertain its character in reference to electricity and medicine.

We apply friction, and observing it attract small particles of paper which lie around, know it to be an electric and not a conductor. Upon bringing the electrometer near it when thus excited, and observing it attract the ball, we know it to be resinous, and not vitreous. Thus we have learned that sulphur is a resinous electric.

But as a medicine, our experiments have thus far revealed to us nothing concerning it.

In mechanics, we find it a brittle solid; and in chemistry a simple substance.

Still we are in the dark as to its medicinal character.

We now prepare and administer it to an invalid whom we think it may benefit. We observe the signs or symptoms of its internal work; but they are so mixed up with the symptoms of the pre-existing disease, that we cannot tell how it *absolutely modifies* the sensations and the conditions of health, in man.

Finding thus, that neither analogy or its use in the diseased organism, can discover to us its real nature and peculiarities as a medicine, we adopt another plan, that of trying it on ourselves and others in *health*.

We take a portion, in which the medicinal forces are properly developed, upon our tongue. Guided by some principle unknown to us, it acts upon certain organs and tissues. The work it performs in the dark labyrinths of its choice, we cannot see; but the exponents, or outward representations of that work, we can both see and study. In these we discover the nature as well as power of sulphur as a medicine.

Therefore, he who traversing forest or field, marshy lowlands or mountain heights, or he who delving deep down into the bowels of the earth, to

discover the medicinal forces and the laws governing their action, need take with him, as an experimenting apparatus, only *sano mens in corpore sano*—a sound mind in a sound body. Should he invite the toxicologist, the chemist or the botanist to accompany him on his expedition, let them not suppose it is because they are able, in a medicinal point of view, to discover what he cannot, but because their general knowledge may render their company agreeable, and at times their suggestions useful. Thus furnished with apparatus, far surpassing in excellence and value any contrived by human ingenuity, he proceeds to try the various substances around him.

In the appearance of morbid changes, consequent upon the use of one, he discovers the presence of the medicinal forces; while their kind, power and duration of action, he learns respectively from the nature, extent and continuance of those changes.

Thus tracing and studying these forces, we find, that in disposition they are always hostile to human health and life. Whenever introduced into the system they disturb its harmony in some part, and thus excite to resistance the indwelling vital forces. We also find, that those belonging to each medicinal substance have their own particular enmities, attacking particular parts in particular ways. Experiments by the healthy vital test teach us all we can ever know of these peculiar enmities.

It is by the collection of means whose peculiarities and power have thus been studied, that a *materia medica* is formed.

The works commonly bearing that noble title, composed for the most part, of unimportant facts, arranged more to suit the fancy of the compiler than the dictates of nature, are a mere burlesque upon science, and a blind guide to all who follow them in the selection of curative means.

To Hahnemann we are indebted for the first *materia medica* composed of reliable and useful facts.

The "*materia medica pura*" will ever stand, in the scientific world, a monument to his genius, his learning and his powers of untiring research, while around it, as a nucleus, must ever gather all that is true and good in medicine.

IV.—THEIR USE.

Having now before us both the nature and *modus operandi* of the medicinal forces, it remains only to consider briefly the character and tendency of disease, in order at once to learn their proper use in the healing art.

There are around us a multitude of agencies, by men designated "morbid causes."

These, whether entering the organism through the mind or through the contact of material atoms, seize upon the vital forces and hinder their action in the preservation of health. The disturbance thus begun spreads from part to part, till disease manifests itself by various sufferings, in mind or body, or in both. If these assailants are weak, nature unaided may overcome them. But if they are too strong, the vital forces are held in their power, while disorder goes on spreading through the system.

In this latter case it is that the physician is called upon to exercise his art.

Coming to the bed-side of the patient, he must first determine by the symptoms what forces are attacked and in what direction they are held from duty. This determined, he next inquires what assistance he can render.

To attempt the restoration of order through the vital domain, while the very springs and guardians of life are held in durance, would be vain indeed.

Therefore, to set *them free* is his first and only duty. How to accomplish this by medicinal means he finally inquires.

To operate directly against the morbid influences in the system, as by alkali against acid, he cannot. All his means being pathogenetic, or disease producing in their very nature, must make their impressions invariably upon the vital, and therefore never directly upon the morbid forces.

Hence we draw the practical conclusion, that disease is removed not by the direct action of medicines upon it, but by the action of the vital forces, which they excite. This action of the vital forces must be in the very organs or parts diseased, in order to be curative. Each organ or apparatus in the human system has its own functions and its own forces. The functions of one cannot be performed by the forces belonging to another.

Neither can disease be removed from one by the action of forces belonging to another.

It is true means may be employed, the specific influence of which is upon organs or parts other than those diseased, which, by the power of their general influence, may recite an action of the vital forces implicated by the disease, so as to remove in part or in whole the existing malady. Relief thus gained, however, can never be anticipated with any degree of certainty, and is attended with great expense to the constitution or general health.

Having, then, determined the necessity of selecting a medicine which is known to act upon the forces of the very parts diseased, the physician, aware that different medicines influence the same forces differently, inquires which he ought to prefer in a given case—one that acts in a manner opposite to that of the disease, or rather one that is similar.

If he employs opposite forces, they may bear those of life from their unnatural position, and thus apparently restore them to freedom and to health.

But these having no power or disposition to destroy the morbid influences already in the system, these latter taking advantage of the re-active power of nature, not only continue to exist, but bearing back the vital forces, put them yet further from their sphere of healthful action.

A repetition, then, of the opposite agents, can only result in temporary relief, while the functions of the diseased organs are becoming yet more deranged and irregular.

By necessity, then in order to cure safely and effectually, the physician must employ similar agents, or means capable of producing in the healthy, symptoms similar to those of the disease to be removed.

The medicine being selected in obedience to this necessity, and prepared according to principles already learned for the development of its forces, it is meted out in doses to suit, on the one hand its disease-producing character, and on the other, the diminished resistance of the vital forces.

The medicinal atoms thus ready for use are put upon the tongue, which, with its million papillæ or points of communication, is the best medium for their transmission to the chosen field of action. Arrived there the morbid agents, yet more impalpable by virtue of similarity in nature, become united or incorporated with them.

They act together upon the ever-resisting vital forces. But the medicinal power being unrenewed, they barely carry those forces a little beyond the former point of detention; whence returning with their original strength, aided by an acquired momentum, they bear away the medicinal atoms, with the old invaders absorbed and buried in them.

By this process the physician introduces material atoms which, in nature being similar to the morbid, accomplishes two objects—first, by sudden impulse to bear the vital forces a little further in the same direction as the morbid, and thus to excite them to re-action; and, secondly, by close relationship, to furnish a vehicle in which the morbid forces could more easily be put out by that re-action.

Thus, taking up a drug mass, we have examined it and found,

1st. That with its atoms are connected certain forces, properly termed *medicinal*.

2d. That these forces having as their only sphere of action the living animal organism, can be traced and studied only in healthy persons.

3d. And finally, that they can be employed in the safe and rapid cure of diseased humanity, only by virtue of their power to excite a re-action of the forces in the organs or parts diseased; or, in other words, by virtue of their ability to produce a disease, similar to the one we wish to remove.

Here, then, by reasonings *a priori*, we have come, step by step, to the minor principles of homœopathy, and finally to its fundamental law.

We are now prepared to proclaim,

HOMŒOPATHIA EX NECESITATE RERUM.

These internal evidences of our science, confirmed by cures on every hand and in every country, where our practice has extended, sends conviction to our inmost reason, and leaves no room for doubts.

Ye fathers and mothers before me, who have come to join in the festivities of this occasion, to you and to your children are vouchsafed the peaceful and healthful influences of homœopathy.

No more shall you have to dread the unwelcome instruments and agents which served the art of healing in its days of darkness, of cruelty.

When disease may find its way into your dwelling and take you from

the circle of business or of pleasure, you shall go to your sick-rooms, not as the condemned criminal goes to his cell, brooding over instruments of torture and of death; nor yet as one entering a dungeon, to engage in mortal combat with an enemy whose tactics are ever-varying, and against whom he has no certain weapon. You shall go to your quiet apartment, free from all sickening sights and smells, with the assurance that curative means are to be employed, pleasant to the senses, certain in their action, and therefore full of promise, for the restoration of health.

And when disease shall come to you, for the last time, incurable and unsparing, you shall not lie down, suffering only what the true science, and art of healing cannot relieve; and with faculties undisturbed and unobscured by oblivious draughts or potions, you shall pass away, not as the drunkard or the beast, but as intelligent God-like creatures.

And ye men of healing, brothers in a common and noble cause, encouraged by the exhibitions of this day; inspired with new confidence and zeal, go spread the blessings of Homœopathy far and wide. Some of you are already at the meridian life, "heroes of more than a hundred battles" well fought with error and disease; yet the example of your master, whose labors the lapse of more than four-score years did not lessen, beckons you on to study and to practice.

Sustained by a consciousness of doing good, and by the patronage of the most intelligent in every community, let the summer and the winter, as they come and go, find you still in the sick room, and from house to house dispensing the blessings of health. Though you have not here a full reward, or a life of comfort, or Sabbath of rest, your rewards, your comforts and your rest will be unending in that coming and better life.

After the lapse of another century, you will be gathered here to celebrate the birth-day of Hahnemann? Long before the coming of that day we shall all be gone—our children will be gone. Three generations will have passed away, and the earth will be all peopled anew.

It is impossible for us to conceive what changes that period will bring; but one thing we know, that *truth* will be the same then that it is to-day. Men and their *theories* may pass away, but facts and their *legitimate conclusions* never.

Systems of medicine, based on *theories*, may change and pass away, but homœopathy, based on truth, reared with philosophic care, and covered with the blessings of millions restored to health, will stand, a noble temple, beautiful without, to which the coming ages shall not bring their gathered treasures, adding town to town, till the end of time.

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — MAY, 1855. — No. II.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ON THE PROGRESS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE.

BY JOHN F. GEARY, M. D.

"Magna est veritas, et prævalebit."

THERE is no subject more replete with interest to the thoughtful student than the gradual development, the steady progress, and final triumph of GREAT TRUTHS.

They mark the track of human genius along the dreary and difficult way of time—they stand like majestic towers, whose foundations had been laid by Titans, and the superstructures completed by their giant sons!

But like that best and purest passion of the youthful heart, whose course was destined "never to run smooth," every great discovery, every revelation of the inspired human mind, though given for universal good, has ever been met by most determined opposition from those whose interest it was intended to promote! What doctrine has ever been established without its victim? What system has been founded without its martyr? It would seem, indeed, as though men in all ages of the world had determined to heap their heaviest censures, and inflict their severest punishments on the benefactors whom their best gifts could not adequately reward!

We do read of *One*, who with clearest and keenest vision deciphered the physical story of the universe, and proved the wisdom of Heaven in the simplicity of its laws: *He*, for the space of fifteen hundred years, was doomed to oblivion; supplanted by a bold adventurer in science, who had only sufficient tact to suit an opposite and false theory to the apparent phenomena which the uninstructed mind could more readily apprehend!

they all knew and admitted to be dark, uncertain, inefficient and very often dangerous.

Writing, as we are, to those to whom these facts are neither new, nor strange; we need only remind them of the numerous instances which the history of the Healing Art, from Æsculapius to Hahnemann, has left on record to corroborate our statement.

Harvey stood alone in defence of his great truth; defended it against the whole force of his professional brethren, and made their *lifeblood flow*, their persons being scathless.

Jenner, the champion of his great prophylactic, bore the brunt of contempt and persecution from all the faculties of all the colleges, and saved them and the people from the ravages of a most foul, disfiguring and destructive plague, in spite of themselves. And these things have continued to our own day: nor indeed do we look to the future with any sanguine hope of better promise. The opposition which Truth has encountered in every age of the world has not originated in any "lodged hate, and a certain loathing," which men, and especially men of letters and science, entertain to truth as such, but the great bulk of mankind have ever been compromised to præexisting claims; and it mattered but little whether these claims were supported by sound reason and utility, or the mere groundless fictions which time only had made hoary, and, by her magic influence, guarded from the scrutiny of the children even the demons their sires had worshipped. We cannot expect it to be otherwise, nor must we blame men for what nature has made inevitable. We look only to Truth herself for conquest; she may for a time be left unwooded and unsolicited, but her cheeks will not lose their maiden blushes nor her forehead display any traces of declining years. She has always had her periodical leap year; and she has left the world many a noble pledge to prove how right gallantly she has improved her privilege. If we compare the state of our Science, no farther back than three hundred years ago, with its present condition it will appear evident that the progress has been steady, gradual and beneficent. As a proof of this statement we refer to a treatise on the "Practice of Physic," translated from the German in the year 1583, a work of the highest authority in its day. It is from the pen of the medical advisers of the monarchs and nobles of continental Europe, and of England, and bears the internal evidence of the very high literary attainments of its author and translator.

We select one from about a hundred prescriptions for diseases of the kidneys and bladder, not one of which is *less* scientific, or rational than the following.

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ANOTHER, too, there was, who, guided by a deeper and more divine philosophy, liberated the *Soul* from her reputed bondage of dark and terrible annihilation! He proved her Godlike and eternal destiny, the moral greatness of her emanations; since they must be the tests of her future rewards and punishments. *He* was condemned as the enemy of truth, the reviler of the gods, the violator of the religion of the people! But, as some acknowledgment for those great virtues, which acquired for him the reputation of having lived more like a god than a mere man, it was conceded, as a *privilege, that he might choose the manner of his death*: and so with serene spirit he drained that libation which was a fit offering at the altars he despised, but which introduced himself to that immortality which it was his glory to magnify.

ANOTHER, still preëminently greater than either of these, whom many tribes and nations *now* venerate and worship: to him temples are raised by myriads; from these a ceaseless anthem rises to each descending star that leaves the heavens at the approach of the coming day! It forms one continuous, unbroken circle of melody, uninterrupted by the changes of times or seasons, unchecked by physical barriers! It is enough to say of Him that he only revealed to the world *the perfect will of Heaven*, and as his life adorned even so great a mission there could have been no pretext for *personal* accusation. *His* greatest crime, therefore, was that he taught *what the world did not know or practice before*! To describe the doom he met for *such wondrous crimes* would be as needless as it is uncalled for. Nor is it necessary to speak here in condemnation of an act upon which, as the sacred record states, the Deity himself, pronounced his marked disapprobation by the partial suspension of the laws of nature. Thus do we find that in ancient times doctrines, which all receive *now as truths* met with most determined and violent opposition because they were contrary to the preconceived notions, the passions and interests of the men of those days! And though to us, looking back over a space of two or three thousand years, these truths appear to have been *then*, just what we see them *now*—bright, benign and beautiful, to those who then lived, and they were “men of like passions with us,” they looked dark as Erebus and hateful as the Furies. In modern times too we watch with delightful hope that Tuscan Cow-herd, who with unwearied diligence adjusts his yet rude and simple tube in the tops of the tallest trees that afford shade to

his browsing kine; and, as he sweeps the heavens, and draws the worlds of light within nearer gaze, hails with salutations of greater reverence those planets whose greater dignity was first reflected by the light of their new found satellites. But a little while, and our sympathies are awakened for, and our indulgence claimed by that feeble, grayhaired, venerable Philosopher, who on bended knees, trembling before his accusers and his judges, and as overawed by the rack and the dungeon he repudiates his clearest convictions with deep and solemn oaths, while in whispering tones with "bated breath," he tries to satisfy the contending claims of science and conscience by that memorable sentence.

"E pur se muove!"

"It moves for all that!"

The instances we have already given will suggest numbers of others which prove with equal conclusiveness that all arts and sciences, all moral and political reforms have established themselves only by forcing their way through hosts of obstructing influences and in spite of difficulties which nothing but the omnipotence of Truth could overcome.

And it may give courage to the timid and hope to the desponding to remember that the darling Science to which we are devoted could not form an exception, nor be reckoned out of the category in which all great principles have been involved. Had it been otherwise her hatchment would have long since borne the "bar sinister," of her illegitimacy. "For sufferance is the badge of all our tribe." But though retarded by persecution, fettered by legal enactments and obstructed by empiricism, we can still *shout* what Galileo dared but to whisper, "It moves for all that!"

And yet it is passing strange that the Science which comes so close to the home and heart, which affects the health and happiness, and even the very life, of man, woman and child, should be the one with which every unblushing adventurer, every designing knave, every heartless speculator takes the greatest liberties, perverts from its true objects and turns to his private purposes with the greatest impunity—Still more strange is it, that those who are acknowledged the true and honorable disciples of our art should from time immemorial be the men who have offered the greatest resistance to every new step it has taken in advancing, to every new truth which was evolved, even by some of their own brightest ornaments, from what

they all knew and admitted to be dark, uncertain, inefficient and very often dangerous.

Writing, as we are, to those to whom these facts are neither new, nor strange; we need only remind them of the numerous instances which the history of the Healing Art, from Æsculapius to Hahnemann, has left on record to corroborate our statement.

Harvey stood alone in defence of his great truth; defended it against the whole force of his professional brethren, and made their *lifeblood flow*, their persons being scathless.

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less field of nature, more rational, more hopeful, more certain than these? The visible progress already made should warrant us to hope, and should, at least, make the violent opposers of all reform more indulgent and thoughtful, since they must own that "There are more things in heaven and earth than have been dreamed of in their philosophy."

A learned but supercilious author who, in 1843, bequeathed to suffering humanity about three hundred chemical and mechanical compounds, described in apothecary's dog-latin, to control or remove the morbid action of the human body, condescends to notice, in some very severe strictures, introductory to his legacy, all the other modes of medical treatment which differ at all from his; and for no other reason, it would seem, *than that they do so differ*. And, *en passant*, it is with profound humility he stoops from his imaginary elevation to notice what he calls "the new-blown bubble distinguished by the high-sounding title of the Homœopathic system,"—having for its exponent "*Similia similibus curantur*,"—"a dogma," says Dr. Paris, "which is directly opposed to the palliative system of Hippocrates—*Contraria contrariis*." Now it cannot be expected—to use the Doctors own words—that I should attempt to combat arguments *so powerful and convincing* as those adduced by so learned a man—so learned, indeed, that the very array of his rhetoric excludes the presence of reason and reflection,—and even the sound of his pompous dictum is deemed by *himself* more than a counterbalance for *undoubted facts*, and the *rational inferences* of humble thinkers! The system of Hahnemann cannot be true, forsooth, *because the Doctor thinks it is not true*,—and must be false, *because he says it is false*! The law "*Similia*," *can be no law because it is not that* found in aphorism 22, Sect. 2, of Hippocrates! A dogma propounded more than four hundred years before the christian era—from which time to Abraham Canin is nineteen hundred and eighty-three years—and from Hippocrates to Dr. Paris is twenty-two hundred and forty-three years! A period of time which might be deemed sufficient for some slight advance upon a *palliative* system. It is utterly impossible that a *small* dose could be of any use, because when the Doctor subjects it to the powerful analysis of his arithmetic, it seems to him out of all rule and reason that it could be otherwise than little in its results! And although the imperceptible atom upon the point of the galvanic wire may

bear but a small ratio to the magazine it explodes and the city it lays in ruins, if tested by the Doctor's figures it is but a mere negative quantity, a something less than nothing—from which, however, nature, more potent than art, by her unerring law brings destruction and desolation! And although from those poisons, on which the Doctor is so erudite and exact, some can be selected of which a *single drop*, a *single grain*, a *single half grain*, will destroy the life of man—and even some whose very *smell* is deadly—and yet *one*, a grain of which is thought, by competent judges, to be sufficient to destroy the lives of *fifty men*! Still in the Doctor's figures, when the calculation is made against a system to which he is opposed, they do not count. Yet these *are facts* which Doctor Paris or any other man of science cannot or dares not deny, whether the inference may or may not favor his line of argument. And surely, since nature is so liberal in the *destructive* potency of *some* of her *small* doses, may we not ask is it unreasonable or illogical to give her credit for an equally benevolent design in adapting others for *health* and *salvation*? Now if it were possible for Dr. Paris, for a moment, to rise above those varied motives that sway his arguments and regulate his conclusions, may it not, after all, appear that there is as good a reason in the nature of things for the truth of the law of the modern German as there is for that of his brother of ancient Greece? And may we not fairly demand what reasons there are in nature, in philosophy, or in fact, to induce us to receive *either* as a law of cure? A mere law, *per se*, when not founded upon experience, demanded by necessity and tested by utility is only an arbitrary dogma, a useless abstraction,—something that may sound very fine, indeed—like Sir Thomas More's Utopia—if it were only possible!

A single incident or a fact may suggest a real or an assumed law; but it is not until a sufficient number of instances of its salutary application are on record that it can be entitled to take its place on the seat of supreme jurisdiction, and become worthy of all the reverence and dignity of a law. In other words under its faithful administration *success* must be *the rule* and *failure* the *exception*; but if these conditions are reversed it can be no law, but “a delusion, a mockery, and a snare!”

Now we maintain that the recorded experience of the medical world from Hippocrates to Hahnemann clearly proves that in the

application of the dogma, "*Contraria contrariis*" *failure has been the rule*, and success the exception. And its great author, knowing very well that such must be its result, claimed for it only the dignity of a *palliative*; and, unlike Dr. Paris, he would be the last to assert that this was the utmost effort of nature; or that from her teeming bosom no more hopeful offspring could ever rise to rectify the wrongs of the most noble race of her numberless children, than a mere "*lusus nature*." But it is no longer for Dr. Paris, or any other man, however high his standing, to decide, but for the world to judge whether the results of the Hahnemannian law entitle it to all the honor and confidence claimed for it as a perfect law of cure.

Homœopathy has already stood the test of more than fifty years, and her dignity has not failed, nor her votaries become few or feeble. She has taken her place, *by legislative enactment*, by the side of her aged and jealous rival, she has displayed the power of her charms in the palaces of kings and in the cottages of the poor—where mere fancy created disease, and the plague slew its thousands; and the benign efficacy of her light and gentle touch has proved her descent from the skies! To future time, then, and the future world, we hopefully and confidently look for the universal spread of her healing reign, and for the unopposed sway of her disease-destroying sceptre! Does not the history of the past warrant our sanguine anticipations?

Are not the persecuted innovations of two thousand years ago the undisputed axioms of *our* day? Are not the martyred malefactors of *those* times the heroes and the Gods of *these*?

The tendency is onward and upward to perfection; we reach it where it is possible, and where it is not, we make the nearest approximation. Why not in medicine as in all things? "The United States Pharmacopœia" opened by the side of "Canin's Practice of Physic"—though the abject and deformed offspring of a most monstrous parent—declares that medical science is progressive, has progressed and must progress! And who can stay her course—till the verdict of science, the experiences of ages, and the voice of Nature herself, shall demand an inscription, *in three words*, to be engraved over the very shrine of the Temple of Truth?—and these words must be,

"SIMILIA SIMILIBUS CURANTUR!"

COMMOCLADIA DENTATA. (GUAO.)

BY J. G. HOWARD, M. D., PHILA.

SP. CHAR.—Leaflets substalked with an odd one, of sixteen pans, cunate at base, oblong, acuminate, prickly-toothed, smooth above, downy beneath, Racemus numerous and terminal, and belongs to the order Terebintacæ of Jussius.

Shrub, four to eight feet long, juice acrid, milky, becoming black by exposure to the air, and forming an indelible ink when applied to the skin or to linen.

This plant is very common on the Island of Cuba, and is found growing on the sea-coast and savannahs. My attention was drawn to it by its effects upon persons exposed to its influence, which are very similar to those produced by the Rhoes of North America. It produces violent itching, redness and erysipelatous swelling of the face, hands, and other parts of the body, followed by yellow vesications and desquamation of the cuticle—but all persons are not equally susceptible of its poisonous operation, some can handle it with impunity, while others by merely touching it or passing near it are affected in a few hours after. In some instances large sores and ulcerations remain, which become very difficult to cure. The fruit is eaten by some persons without producing any bad effects.

(*) The asterisk distinguishes the cases cured by this remedy. It is worthy to mention that Dr. Guernsey of Frankford, Philadelphia, reports having made a radical cure with this remedy, of two cases of eruption of the head, in children, and an inveterate eruption of the face in a man, contracted in a barber shop by shaving.

From the Gardeners' Magazine, May, 1842, p. 286. An extract from the letter of Mr. Edward Otto, writing from Trinidad de Cuba.

“The only thing I found here was dearly bought. The Guao is a tree from four to eight feet in height, with beautiful dark green leaves, having a brownish tinge round the margin. The blossoms are small, of a bluish brown, and hang like loose bunches of grapes, at the points of the shoots, or even on the stem itself, as it has seldom branches. This tree is frequently found near small rivers, particularly in barren and stony places, and in the savannahs, some eight

feet in height, it may be seen in the immediate vicinity of Trinidad, and no one ventures to cut it down, as its bad properties are so well known. In the savannah near the city, I saw on the 12th March, a specimen of this tree, four feet in height, in full flower. Quite delighted with the sight, I cut off the top, and also some shoots from another specimen, and laid them with the other plants, which my negro carried. A dark brownish green sap flowed from the wounds, and stained my hands. On returning home I arranged the collected blossoms, and found I could not remove the stains on my hands by means of soap and brush; and when I made the natives understand my grievance, they told me, *I might be glad to come off with my life*, because, although some were only injured by touching the sap, others again *by merely coming in contact with the tree, or by passing near it*, have experienced fatal effects. About noon on the day I touched the sap, I experienced a painful *burning on my face and arms*, and particularly about *my eyes*, and it became greater towards evening. My sleep was tolerably placid, but what was my horror on awakening to see *my face most dreadfully swollen, my eyes projecting far out of their sockets, and I could only see a faint glimmer of light with the left. A tormenting itching and burning* came over my whole body, and I found it quite time to send for medical aid. Bleeding, washing with water from a decoction of the blossoms of the malva, a bath, and twelve leeches on my eyes, were the expedients resorted to by the doctor; the swelling abated towards evening, and the following day I was able to see. The swelling was quite gone in the course of a few days, and it was followed by the breaking out of *a red color all over the body resembling that in the scarlet fever*. I then had a bath, in which there was put a proportion of brandy. When the redness and burning disappeared, I might have been taken for a native, as I could hardly be distinguished from a mulatto. I was told that this plant is used officinally in cholera and yellow fever; but in this respect I did not wish to renew my acquaintance with it."

The following proving was made with the tincture.

No. 1.

Age 27. Temperament nervous and sanguine, the latter preponderating; disposition irritable, but not spiteful; feelings easily

roused, which are calmed in a moment; have no recollection of ever being sick till during the first campaign of the "Mexican war," after which was as healthy as ever till October, 1852, when I was attacked with dysentery, was treated Homœopathically, since then have been perfectly healthy. For the last eight years have been accustomed to mental labor *wholly*. Light blue eyes, fair, thin hair.

Saturday morning, Nov. 18, 1854, at 7½ o'clock, and about thirty minutes before breakfasting; took one drop in a teaspoonful of water. Having observed no symptoms; took same dose at 9 P. M., about three hours after eating supper, and one hour before retiring to bed. Still observing no symptoms.

Sunday morning, 19th, took one drop as before, at 8 o'clock, and about thirty minutes before breakfasting. No symptoms during the day. About 8 P. M., while sitting in church, felt severe, tingling itching on the left side of the scrotum, which continued several minutes; then shifting to the inner side and lower half of the left thigh, which seemed almost insupportable, causing me to rub the part, which gave relief. The itching on this part seemed to extend from above down, spreading over a surface of about two inches wide and four to six in length. After leaving this part, I felt it just below the knee on the inner side of same extremity. Then on the upper extremities, the left one first; then the right lower extremity. The itching seemed to shift rapidly from place to place. Relieved by rubbing or scratching. Worse in a warm room and during rest; and for the most part proceeding from above down, *particularly* on the lower extremities, and generally of a tingling character. About 10 o'clock same evening, just before retiring to bed, took two drops.

Monday morning, 20th, at 7 o'clock, and about forty-five minutes before breakfasting, took two drops. No symptoms during the day; but after sundown; itching on various parts which continued during the evening.

Tuesday morning, 21st, about 7 o'clock, and one hour before breakfasting, took four drops. During the fore part of the day itching on various parts of the lower extremities.

In the afternoon, having been called to the country, in haste, I did not take the liquid with me. During the evening itching as before; about 4 or 5 o'clock, and continued during the evening,

catarrhal symptoms in the head, eyes seemed sore, with more or less lachrymation. These symptoms of the head I attributed to cold, which I supposed I had contracted on my way home.

Wednesday morning, 22d, after waking, (6 o'clock), my face, around both eyes, felt swollen, and the right eye-ball very sore; worse on moving the eye. About three or four o'clock in the afternoon, having an opportunity, I examined my face and eye; the right eye still very painful, and feeling much larger and more protruded than the left. The eyes look dull and glassy; the vessels congested, the lids red, swollen and inflamed, and just below the inferior tarsal cartilages the face is very much puffed out.

During the day, while in the open air, profuse lachrymation; toward and during the evening, the left eye worse than the right.

Thursday, 23d, the right eye during the day is worse than the left. In the evening *vice versa*.

During the evening of the 23d, experienced severe pain at intervals, extending from the posterior portion of both eye-balls, through the head to just below the occipital protuberance, with sensation of pressure on the superior surface of the eye-balls, seeming to move the eye downward and outward. (This pressing and rolling sensation was felt more or less during the last two days.)

The eyes were relieved by sitting quietly before a wood fire, on the hearth. Aggravated by moving the head, by reading, by looking at a lighted candle, and bright objects. More or less lachrymation during the whole time; but worse in the open air.

Friday, 24th, having returned to the city; the eyes still the same or rather worse. In the evening took some Belladonna.

Saturday morning, soreness of the eye-balls greatly diminished, but the puffiness and swelling around the eyes still continue, which gradually subsided in two or three days.

Sunday morning, Feb. 4, 1855, took three drops at 8 o'clock, and thirty minutes before breakfasting.

About 4½ o'clock, P. M., sensation as if all the molar teeth on the right side were loose, lasting thirty minutes. Immediately after a steady aching and soreness in the gum and root of the middle molar tooth of the right lower jaw. (This tooth is carious, and has been so for several years; it is loose also, but never had toothache

before.) The gum of this tooth is swollen. This aching continued till I went to sleep (9½ o'clock) at night. Relieved by holding the right side of the face to a warm stove or very hot wood fire. Holding cold water in the mouth produced no change.

Monday morning, Feb. 5th, took four drops about ten o'clock, and two hours after eating breakfast.

Soreness of the eye-balls during the evening; also, fine stitches in the external canthus of the left eye, about 8½ o'clock. These stitches seemed to resemble very fine needles, (about half inch in length), and moving rapidly from below upward; lasted only a few seconds.

Tuesday morning, Feb. 6th, about 2 o'clock, being called out of bed a few minutes, by some of the family; after getting in bed, and while lying on the left side, a number of very fine sticking pains or stitches in the Scrobiculus Cordis, worse by inspiration; lasting a few seconds. (This sensation seemed as if about a dozen fine pins or needles half inch in length, were dancing about in every direction.) Immediately after this, and lasting about five or ten minutes; dull pains, gurgling and uneasiness in the intestines, in the Hypogastric region, and accompanied with emission of odorless flatus.

Wednesday, 7th, various times during day; fine prickings in the costal cartilages of the 8th, 9th, and 10th ribs of the right side. 7½ o'clock, P. M., violent itching immediately below the right elbow, going off by rubbing the part; with sensation as if it would return after I ceased rubbing. Afterwards a drawing, crampy sensation in the first phalanx of the ring finger of the right hand, and as if this finger would be flexed on the palm. This drawing sensation seemed to move towards the metacarpo-phalangeal articulation; lasting about ten minutes.

About 9 P. M., after laying down in bed, slight shifting pains in the Hypogastric region; lasting about six minutes.

Thursday, 8th, 5 o'clock, P. M., a return of the crampy sensation in the first phalanx of the ring finger of the right hand; lasting ten or fifteen minutes.

At 6½ P. M., a similar sensation in first phalanx of the index finger of the right hand, lasting ten minutes. Also, and commencing about the same time, a sore and pulsating pain in the body of the

middle molar tooth of the right upper jaw; (this tooth is perfectly sound,) lasting half an hour, and relieved by holding the right side of the face to a hot stove.

Saturday, 10th, 9½ o'clock, P. M., small, round and dull red, pimples on the right scapula; anterior and upper half of the left fore arm, on the same region of the right arm, but more numerous on the left; also, on the outer and upper parts of the calf of the left leg. When observed, those on the calf of the leg and left arm looked dry and scaly, and as if the parts had been scratched with the finger nails.

Monday, 12th, about 3½ o'clock, P. M., stinging itching between the metacarpal bones of the thumb and first finger of the right hand; also, and at the same time, slight itching on the lower part of the left scapula, with sensation as if there were pimples there, lasting about ten minutes; afterwards on the right scapula.

Seven o'clock, P. M., itching on the dorsum of the left hand, also the left scapula (several times during the proving itching on the inner side of the right and left thigh.) About 9 o'clock, on retiring to bed, the back and right half of the abdomen and outer part of the right thigh presented a streaked appearance, of alternate red and white, (the former the broadest.) The redness vanished by pressing with the fingers, but returning immediately on taking away the pressure. The streaks extended as high up as the scapula, the redness seemed to be of dull hue. (I had not a good opportunity to examine these streaks.) In the morning, could scarcely make out these streaks.

Tuesday, 13th, itching on various parts of the body, mostly on the extremities; on the fore part of the day worse on the upper extremities; in the after part, worse on the lower extremities. The general character of the itching seems to be tingling, increasing in intensity the longer it lasts. Relieved by rubbing or scratching; better in the open air and by motion. Worse in a warm room; warm weather and by rest. At night on retiring to bed, (9 o'clock,) observed several pimples on the back part of the neck, shoulders, both scapula and lower down the back; some of them present a white appearance at the apex. These pimples do not lose their redness by pressure with the fingers.

The lower portion of the right hypochondriac region down to the crest of the right ilium, and extending two-thirds across the abdomen, (from right to left,) presented a pale red appearance, as if an eruption would make its appearance; by passing the hand over this portion of the abdomen, beneath the skin is covered with papillæ. In the morning, 14th, could see no trace of these papillæ on the right side, but the left side of the abdomen presented a similar appearance as the right side the night previous, but much less marked.

Thursday, 15th, 3½ o'clock, P. M., very acute pain in the left mammary gland, about an inch above the nipple, while sitting in the house, and lasting about five minutes. This pain I think I cannot describe intelligibly; sometimes it seemed to be a throbbing, sore pain, at others as if the sharp edge of a small knife blade was pressing on the spot with great force, increasing in intensity; and with a sore or bruised feeling of the ribs beneath when pressed with the hand. Relieved by walking about, particularly by deep inspiration; aggravated by expiration. A return of this pain at five o'clock, immediately after eating supper. After leaving the mammary gland it passed down the side as low as the spleen. At 6½ o'clock a return of the pain in the mammary gland. Immediately after leaving the mammary sensation of a lancinating pain passing down the right side of the chest and inner side of the right upper arm, then to the elbow down the lower arm, and along the dorsal surface of second and third fingers. After which, pain in the left carpus.

Seven and a half o'clock, soreness in a small part just below the ribs, on the right side; also, and first, on the left side, but worse on the right side.

At twenty-five minutes past seven, a return of the pain in the left mammary, at twenty minutes past nine, a recurrence of the same pain.

At thirty minutes past nine, acute sore pains extending across the abdomen, just above the umbilicus, affecting the breathing; lasting several minutes, also slight bubbling in the abdomen as of wind there, and emission of hot flatus.

(About 8 o'clock, aching tensive pain in the anterior and lower part of both thighs, the right worse than the left. Lasting over an hour in the left, and till I went to sleep, in the right. By pressing the parts with the hand the periosteum feels bruised and sore.)

Feb. 16, about 3 o'clock, P. M., pain in the palmar surface of the last phalanx of the third finger. Seven in the evening, a recurrence of the same pain.

About 8½ o'clock, pains round the umbilicus and extending up to the epigastrium.

You will observe that during this second proving I have taken but the *two* doses. I felt some of the symptoms three weeks after taking the drug, but neglected to note them.

No. 2.

Miss J——, aged 18, sanguine temperament, irritable and restless disposition. Thick and sandy and auburn hair; medium stature, broad chest, and what might be termed robust. Has generally been considered healthy; light eyes.

Occupation, in country parlance, does house work.

Monday morning, Feb. 5th, 1855, at 10 o'clock, took four drops of *Commocladia*, 1st₃₀.

About 12 o'clock M., two hours after taking the drug observed an aching in the middle molar tooth of the upper jaw of the right side. (The molar tooth immediately below it is carious, or in popular language—hollow,) which increased and became of a twitching character, that is, a sensation as if the tooth was drawing out of its socket or alvioli, putting the nerve on the stretch, and suddenly pressing into the socket again, and the pain shooting up to the temple of the same side. The tooth feeling about an inch and a half long, and lasting till 3 o'clock, P. M. Relieved by pressing on the jaw with the hand, and by holding the affected side of the face close to a hot stove. Aggravated by holding cold water in the mouth. Immediately after the cessation of the toothache, the head feels very heavy and large. The eyes feel very heavy, larger than usual, painful and pressing out of the head as if something was pressing on the top of the eye-balls, moving them downward and outward. The head feels heavier about the forehead and eyes; cannot describe the headache, the head feels worse near a warm stove, and when stooping almost impossible to hold the head down. Relieved by being in the open air. The eyes feel more painful when near the warm stove, with profuse lachrymation, also when stooping, (all this time the eye-balls are very sore, the right worse than the

left,) looking at a lighted candle makes the eyes more painful and causes profuse lachrymation, eye-balls feel worse on moving them, the symptoms of the eyes continued till she went to sleep at night, during this afternoon this prover was considerably at work.

Tuesday, February 6th, feeling of heaviness of the head in the morning. About 10 o'clock, A. M., took three drops. About 12 M., felt sick at the stomach, which feeling continued over an hour. After which an aching in the bodies of all the teeth, lasting a minute, and returning about every five minutes, which intermittent aching continued a half hour, eye-balls feel sore also.

Wednesday, 7th, 1 o'clock, P. M., feeling of fullness and tightness across the lower part of the chest and upper part of the abdomen, as if nothing could move, and causing great difficulty of breathing. (The prover said she was swelled in those parts.) The difficulty of breathing worse in the morning while in bed; better while moving about and in the open air.

These sensations continued till 3 o'clock, P. M., next day.

February 8th, about 2½ o'clock, P. M., heavy, aching drawing pain in the left axilla, extending through the shoulder, with a sensation as if the shoulder would be drawn towards the neck. This pain lasted half an hour.

February 9th, a drawing, crampy pain in the middle of the palm of the right hand, extending to the tips of the fingers, (*not* the thumb,) and as if the fingers would be drawn towards the palm of the hand.

This pain in the hand was first observed about 10½ o'clock, A. M., and lasted till 2 o'clock, P. M., (3½ hours,) one hour after, (3 o'clock,) very short stitches in the popliteal space of the left leg. The prover said it seemed as if there were a dozen or more very small pins or needles shooting about in every direction in the part, which was so intolerable that she was compelled to rub and scratch the part, but without obtaining any relief. These stitches lasted over half an hour. Immediately after their disappearance, and lasting about fifteen minutes, violent smarting in the same part, as if the part had been burned at a hot stove.

February 12th, violent pain extending from the posterior portion of the right eye through the head to the occipital protuberance with

great soreness of the eye-ball, very profuse lachrymation and sensation as if the eye was as large as two eyes. This symptom was first observed about 10 o'clock, P. M., continuing till she fell asleep, which was after 11 o'clock. The eye felt quite sore next morning. About 7 o'clock in the morning observed an itching on all that portion of the nose inferior to the bridge; internally and externally; continuing constantly till she went to sleep at night, momentarily relieved by rubbing.

February 13th, itching of the nose still continued unabated, sometimes almost insupportable. About 10½ o'clock, A. M., dull aching pain extending from a little above the left elbow down the posterior portion of the arm, dorsum of the hand to the ends of the fingers, and lasting two and a half hours; relieved by exercising the arm; the arm feels numb when holding any thing with the hand. Itching of the nose ceased about 6 o'clock, P. M.; better in the open air, worse in a warm room.

Mr. G——, aged 21 years, bilious and sanguine temperament, dark hair; occupation, window glass cutter.

February 5, 1855, at 5 o'clock, P. M., took 15 pellets (No. 3 small size) of the *Commocladia* 1st.

February 6th, about 10 o'clock, P. M., took same dose.

February 7th, about 4 or 5 o'clock, P. M., an aching soreness in the eye-balls, which increased in severity during the evening, sometimes making me very dizzy. This aching and soreness continued till I went to sleep, (about 10 o'clock.)

Aggravated by looking at the lighted candle and by motion, stooping or moving the head causing flow of tears.

February 8th, 7½ o'clock, A. M., drawing or cramp-like pain in the right axilla, lasting half an hour.

This prover went away for several days, did not take any more of the drug. After his return I could not prevail on him to continue the proving.

No. 3.

On 15th instant at half past nine o'clock, took two drops of the second alternation, repeated the same dose the next morning. No symptoms appeared until about three o'clock in the afternoon.

Symptom 1st.—Shooting pain through the left temple, recurring at intervals for three hours, and at times for several days. Occasional digging sensations in the centre of the sternum without pain from within outward. Axillary glands both swollen and sore, especially the left. Stinging pricking pain between the nipple and the axilla on the left side. The whole chest feels sore on contact. Flannel irritates without much soreness; breath is continually oppressed. Cannot draw a long breath, on account of sharp pain felt at the centre of the thorax on left side. Abdomen feels swollen, at times dull pains in abdomen; clothes too tight. Chronic ailments of the spine much aggravated, especially between the scapula. Continual burning pain in left scapula, just above and posterior to the spine of scapula. Restless at night, continual rolling from side to side; troubled dreams during sleep; talking about one's business. Tongue coated in the morning, dirty yellow coat, which is easily removed—tastes bitter, mouth dry, appetite good, bowels are sluggish, at times feel dizzy. On rising from bed everything looks dark; motion relieves all pains, no pains when in open air, cannot sit still, constant change of position, because gives relief. Inferior lip blistered and swollen. Change of weather aggravates the pains. Dullness of hearing. Inflammation of eyes cured. Constant pressure and heaviness in region of stomach; sour eructations about two hours after eating; worst symptoms on the left side.

Weather cold and dry.

Aged 22, nervo-sanguineous temperament, scrofulous diathesis.

No. 4.

Nov. 18th, 1854. After breakfast, and before taking exercise, took two drops of the tincture.

At 10 o'clock felt tingling itching at the lower part of the sternum, and shortly after on the whole chest. Itching of the same character on the ankle. At 4 o'clock, itching on upper part of the calves. 8 o'clock, itching on abdomen. At 10, P. M., took two drops more.

Nov. 19th, 1854. Took two drops at 9 o'clock, before breakfast. Found that a red hard pimple had appeared on left side of sacrum. Pimple painful when touched. About noon intense itching on

scrotum and lower part of penis, extending to the prostate gland, and also on inner surface of prepuce. At intervals during the day, tingling itching along lower limbs; itching appears to spread over a space of three inches in length and one in width. Itching changes its position and is relieved by scratching. At 6, P. M., numb, tensive pain of the forearm, and rheumatic stiffness of the shoulders and elbow joints, lasting for three hours. At 10, P. M., similar pains on inner part of thigh extending from the scrotum to the condyle. Continued tingling itching of scrotum during night.

Nov. 19th, 1854. Took three drops at 9, A. M. At 10, A. M., violent burning tingling itching of lower limbs.

SUMMARY.

Head.—The head feels heavier about the forehead and eyes; cannot describe the pain. Pain increased by the heat of the stove, and when stooping almost impossible to hold the head down. Relieved by being in the open air. No. 2.

Feeling of heaviness of the head in the morning. No. 2.

Shooting pains through the left temple recurring at intervals for three hours, and at times for several days. No. 3.

At times feel dizzy, on arising from bed every thing looks dark, motion relieves all pains, no pains when in the open air, restless, cannot sit still, constant change of position because it gives relief.—No. 3.

* Corrosive itching of the head.

Ears.—Dullness of hearing.—No. 3.

Eyes.—Aching soreness in the eye-balls, which increased in severity during the evening, sometimes making me very dizzy, aggravated by looking or moving the head, causing flow of tears.—No. 5.

The eyes feel very heavy, and larger than usual; painful and pressing out of the head, as if something was pressing on top of the eye-balls, moving them downwards and outwards.—No. 2.

Inflammation of the eyes cured.—No. 3.

* Edges of the eye-lids inflamed and red, conjunctiva and sclerotic

coat red, with great intolerance to light ; would see from the right eye a deep red ring around the light of the lamp, and on closing the right eye the ring would disappear.

Violent pain, extending from the posterior portion of the right eye, through the head to the occipital protuberance, with great soreness of the eye-ball, very profuse lachrymation, and sensation as if the eye was much larger than natural ; the eye feels quite sore next morning.—No. 2.

Soreness of the eye-balls during the evening ; fine stitches in the external canthus of the left eye, resembling small needles, and moving rapidly from below upwards, lasting only a few seconds.—No. 1.

Severe pains at intervals, extending from the posterior portion of both eye-balls, through the head to just below the occipital protuberance, with sensation of pressure on the superior surface of the eye-balls, seeming to move the eye downward and outward. Relieved by sitting quietly before a wood fire, aggravated by moving the head, by reading, by looking at a lighted candle, and bright objects.

Lachrymation constant, worse in the open air.—No. 2.

Face around the eyes felt swollen, and the right eye-ball very sore ; worse on moving the eye. The right eye very painful, and feeling much larger and more protruded than the left ; eyes dull and glassy, the vessels congested, the eye lids red, swollen, and just below the inferior tarsal cartilages the face is very much puffed out. During the day, in the open air, profuse lachrymation during the evening, the left eye worse than the right.—No. 1.

Pains in the eyes increased by being near the warm stove, with profuse lachrymation, also when stooping ; the eye-balls very sore, the right worse than the left ; looking at a lighted candle make the eyes more painful, and causing profuse lachrymation ; eye-balls worse on moving them.—No. 2.

Nose.—Itching on all that portion of the nose inferior to the bridge, internally and externally ; continuing constantly till she went to sleep ; at night, momentarily relieved by rubbing ; next day itching of the nose unabated, sometimes almost insupportable.—No. 2.

Itching of the nose better in the open air ; worse in a warm room.—No. 2.

Teeth.—Aching pains in the middle molar teeth of the upper jaw of the right side, which increased, and became of a twitching character, sensation as if the tooth was drawing out of its socket, putting the nerve on the stretch, and then suddenly pressing into the socket again. Pain shooting up to the temple of the same side; the tooth feeling longer than the rest; lasting till three o'clock, P. M. Pain relieved by pressing on the jaw with the hand, and by holding the affected side close to a hot stove. Aggravated by holding cold water in her mouth. Immediately after the cessation of the tooth-ache the head feels heavy and large.—No. 2.

Aching in the bodies of all the teeth, lasting a minute, and returning about every five minutes, with intermittent aching a half hour, with soreness of the eye-balls.—No. 2.

Sensation as if all the molar teeth on the right side were loose, lasting thirty minutes, followed by a steady aching and soreness in the gum, and root of the middle molar teeth of the right lower jaw. (Inflammation of the gum of the right lower jaw.) Relieved by holding the face to a warm stove—aggravated by cold water.—No. 1.

Sore and pulsating pain in the body of the middle molar tooth of the right upper jaw, the tooth being sound. Relieved by heat.—No. 1.

Sharp jumping tooth-ache in the middle double tooth of the right upper jaw.—No. 5.

Mouth.—Tongue coated in the morning, dirty yellow; mouth dry; appetite good; bowels sluggish.—No. 3.

*Swelling of the lower lip.

Inferior lip blistered and swollen—change of weather aggravates the pain.—No. 3.

Larynx.—*Spasmodic dry cough at night, with tickling in the throat, and constant dull pain under the left nipple, extending through to the left scapulæ.

*Titilating cough; *hacking cough in the day-time, and at night during sleep. *Cough coming on while speaking.

Chest.—Acute pain in the left mammary gland, about an inch above the nipple; sometimes throbbing, and at others as if the sharp

edge of a small knife-blade was pressing on the spot with great force, increasing with intensity. A bruised, sore feeling of the ribs beneath, when pressing with the hand. Relieved by walking about, particularly by deep inspirations — aggravated by expiration. Leaving the mammary gland, passed down the side to the spleen.—No. 1.

Fine prickings in the costal cartilages of the eighth, ninth, and tenth ribs of the right side.—No. 1.

Pain in the mammary gland ceases for an hour and then returns; pain leaves a laming sensation in the glands, and presses down the right side of the chest, and inner side of right arm, then to the elbow, down the fore-arm, and along the dorsal surface of second and third fingers, followed by pain in the carpus.

Soreness in a small spot just below the ribs, on the right side; also, and first, on the left side, but worse on the right side.

Pains in the left mammary gland, recurring every hour.—No. 1.

Itching on several parts of the body.—No. 1.

Feeling of fulness and tightness across the lower part of the chest, and upper part of the abdomen, as if nothing could move, and causing great difficulty of breathing, feeling the abdomen swelled; difficulty of breathing, worse in the morning while in bed, better while moving about in the open air. Heavy drawing pain in the left axilla, extending through the shoulder, with sensation as if the shoulder would be drawn towards the neck, lasting for a half an hour.—No. 2.

Occasional digging pains in the centre of the sternum, without, pains from within, outwards; axillary glands both swollen and sore, especially the left. Stinging pricking pain between the nipple and axilla on the left side; the whole chest feels sore, and in contact, flannel irritates without much soreness, breath continually oppressed. Cannot draw a long breath, on account of sharp pain felt in the centre of the thorax, on left side.—No. 3.

Red, hard pimple on the left side of the sternum. Painful when touched; intense itching on the sternum.—No. 4.

Tingling itching at the lower part of the sternum, and in the whole chest.—No. 4.

*Constrictive pain across the chest.

Back.—Itching on the left scapulæ.—No. 1.

Slight itching on the lower part of the left scapulæ, with sensation as if there were pimples there. Then on the right scapulæ.—No. 1.

Pimples on the shoulders containing a white substance, and quite sore.—No. 5.

Continual burning pain in the left scapulæ, just above, and posterior to the spine of scapulæ.—No. 3.

Small, round, dull red pimples on the right scapulæ.—No. 1.

Stomach.—Constant heaviness in region of the stomach—sour eructations about two hours after eating.—No. 3.

Felt sick at the stomach, which continued over an hour.—No. 2.

Abdomen.—A pale red flush, as if an eruption would make its appearance, from the right hypochondriac region, down to the crest of the right ilium, and extending two-thirds across the abdomen, beneath the skin is covered with papillæ.—No. 1.

Itching on the abdomen.—No. 4.

The back and right side of the abdomen presented a broad streak of alternate white and red, extending up as far as the scapulæ.—No. 1.

Pain around the umbilicus, extending up to the epigastrium.—No. 1.

Gurgling and uneasiness in the intestines, in the hypogastric region, accompanied with emission of odorless flatus.—No. 1.

Acute, sore pains, extending across the abdomen, just above the umbilicus, affecting the breathing, lasting several minutes. Slight bubbling in the abdomen, as if wind there, and emissions of hot flatus.—No. 1.

Abdomen feels swollen at times, dull pains in the abdomen, the clothes too tight. Chronic ailments of the spine much aggravated, especially between the scapulæ.—No. 3.

*Distention of the abdomen.

Slight shifting pains in the hypogastric region.—No. 1.

Genital Organs.—Continued tingling itching of scrotum during the night.—No. 4.

Intense itching on the lower part of penis, extending to the prostate gland, also on inner side of prepuce.—No. 4.

Sleep.—Restless at night—continual rolling from side to side; troubled dreams during sleep, talking about one's business. }

Upper Extremities.—Small round, and dull red scaly pimples on the anterior and upper half of the right and left fore-arms.—No. 1.

Itching on various parts of the body, mostly on the extremities, more on the upper extremities. The itching is of a tingling character, increasing in intensity the longer it lasts. Relieved by rubbing or scratching. Better in the open air, and during motion. Worse in a warm room, warm weather, and by rest.—No. 1.

*Dry tettery eruption in a female, on both arms, extending from the elbows, half way up to the shoulders, over the bycep muscles—with excessive itching after undressing, on going to bed, and on scratching, would become very red, and irritable and burning.

In the morning, dull aching pain, extending from a little above the left elbow, down the posterior portion of the arm, dorsum of the hand, to the ends of the fingers, lasting over two hours. Relieved by exercising the arm; the arm feels numb when holding anything in the hand.—No. 2.

Drawing, crampy pain in the middle of the palm of the right hand, extending to the tips of the fingers, except the thumb, as if the fingers would be drawn towards the palm of the hand—lasting three hours and a-half.—No. 2.

Numb, tensive pain of the forearm, and rheumatic stiffness of the shoulders and elbow-joints—lasting for three hours.—No. 4.

Itching on the upper extremities, commencing on the left one first, then the right lower extremity. Itching shifting rapidly from place to place. Relieved by rubbing and scratching—worse in a warm room, and during rest; and for the most part proceeding from above, down—particularly on the lower extremities, and of a tingling character.—No. 1.

Drawing, crampy sensation in the first phalanx of the ring finger of the right hand, and as if this finger would be flexed on the palm. This sensation seemed to move towards the metacarpo phalangeal articulation, lasting about ten minutes.—No. 1.

Pain in the palmer surface of the last phalanx of the third finger, returning in the evening.—No. 1.

Drawing, cramp-like pain in the right axilla, lasting half an hour.

Violent itching immediately below the right elbow, going off by rubbing, and returning after ceasing rubbing.—No. 1.

Itching on the dorsum of the left hand.—No. 1.

Crampy sensation in the first phalanx of the index finger of the right hand.—No. 1.

*A dry erysipelatous eruption around the left wrist and eyes, with intolerable corrosive itching.

Stinging itching between the metacarpal bones of the thumb and first finger of the right hand.—No. 1.

Lower Extremities.—Small round, and dull red scaly pimples on the outer and upper part of the calf of the left leg.—No. 1.

Severe tingling itching on the left side of the scrotum, which continued for several minutes, shifting to the inner side and lower half of the left thigh, which seemed almost insupportable; relief by rubbing. The itching extended from above down, spreading over a surface of about two inches wide, and four to six in length. After leaving this part, felt it just below the knee, on the inner side of the same extremity.—No. 1.

Itching on the inner side of the thighs.—No. 1.

*Erysipelatous inflammation of the instep of the left foot of a female seventy years old, followed by yellow vesication, and disquamation of the cuticle.

A broad and alternate red streak on outer part of the right thigh. The redness disappeared by pressing with the fingers, and would return immediately on taking away the pressure.—No. 1.

At intervals during the day, tingling itching along the lower extremities, spreading over a space of three inches in length, and one in breadth. Itching changes its position, and is relieved by scratching.—No. 4.

Itching on various parts of the lower extremities.—No. 1.

Back.—Pimples on the back part of the neck, shoulders, both scapulæ, and lower down the neck, some of them presenting a white appearance at the apex. No change of color by pressure with the fingers.—No. 1.

Violent burning, tingling itching of the lower limbs.—No. 4.

Itching, with tingling sensation on the ankles. Itching on the upper part of the calves.—No. 4.

Very short stitches in the popliteal space of the left leg, as if there were a dozen small pins shooting about in every direction,

which were intolerable, without any relief by rubbing and scratching. After disappearance of these stitches, violent smarting in the parts, as if burned at a hot stove.—No. 2.

Numb, tensive pain on inner side of the thigh, extending from the scrotum to the condyle.—No. 4.

Aching, tensive pain in the anterior and lower part of both thighs, the right worse than the left, lasting over an hour in the left, and longer in the right thigh. By pressing the parts with the hand, the periosteum feels bruised and sore.—No. 1.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO HOMŒOPATHY FROM THE FLORA OF BARBADOS.

BY FRANCIS GODING, M. D.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 719, VOL. III.]

[CROTON FLAVENS.

*Balsam, or
Sea-side Sage.*

MONÆCIA MONADELPHIA.

Tricoccæ, Lin.—Euphorbia, Jass.

This little plant is frequent on rocky, barren hills, on the sides of cliffs, and in the gullies. It is superficially covered with a thick, yellowish down, which gives it a glaucous appearance. The leaves have a rough feel, and on being chewed impart a warm, bitter, acrid taste, which very sensibly affects both the mouth and throat, and is permanent. The whole of it abounds with a thick viscid juice, which gives it a strong balsamic odor. It is esteemed a good pectoral, and recommended much in old coughs and pulmonary and other complaints of the breast. It is said also to be a good vulnerary, and useful in cuts and recent wounds. There is no doubt but that it possesses active powers, which probably, by well conducted experiments and judicious observation, may be found medicinally useful. I think, on some trials I have made with this plant in decoction, that it is pectoral and expectorant, and at the same time sudorific. The leaves also are useful in resolute baths. Along with its balsamic quality, it has also a stimulant one, and should therefore be avoided when there is reason to suspect the existence of much inflammation.]

This is properly *Croton Balsamiferum*. It is deserving of investigation from its frequent use, and the reputed beneficial results obtained, in cases of chronic coughs and asthmatic complaints. The dried plant smoked in lieu of tobacco, has cured a case of asthma of long standing.

There are two other species of *Croton* in Barbados. *C. Polygannum*, the Wild Calabash of Hughes, has a slight degree of bitterness when chewed, causing a trifling pain in the throat, which is however fugaceous. *Croton Palustre*, Pond weed, is the Marshy *Croton* of Miller. To both the latter species Collins denies medicinal qualities.

JANIPHA MANIHOT. *Bitter Cassava.*

MONÆCIA MONADELPH. *Euphorbia, Juss.*

This plant, although not noticed by Collins, has long been cultivated in the island for the sake of its farina or starch, which is prized and regarded as a dainty when prepared in the shape of cakes and puddings, &c. It also yields the tapioca of the shops, or the *farine manioc* of the French islands. Both the farina, or Cassava flour, and the tapioca are the product of its long fusiform roots, which, besides these farinaceous matters, are full of a juice containing a deleterious principle that renders them, in their natural state, the most deadly poison of the West Indies. To obtain the farinaceous matters from the noxious juice, the roots are rasped and the pulp subjected to a strong pressure in long linen bags. After the liquor has been well squeezed out, the farina is rubbed through a coarse seive, and exposed to the sun to dry. It is then fit for use. The expressed liquor still contains in suspension a portion of starch in a finely divided state, which, when it settles down and dries becomes tapioca. The active principle of the liquor, and the recent roots, was found on examination by Professor Fownes, when he visited Barbados, and subjected them to chemical tests, to be Hydzo-cyanic acid in combination with an alkali. It is very volatile, and is either dissipated or decomposed by heat; yet many instances of death have occurred by the roots of this species being roasted and eaten by mistake for the *Janipha Lofingii* (roasting or sweet cassava). Dr. Barham thus describes the symptoms of poisoning by

the roots :—"Pain and sickness of the stomach, swelling of the whole abdomen, violent vomiting and purging, giddiness of the head, coldness and shrinking, dimness of sight, faintings, and death in a few hours." The antidote to this poison is clay batter.

The Brazilian pathogenesis of this plant is meagre, and probably imperfect, from the circumstance of the provers being obliged to antidote the symptoms in consequence of their violence. The roots of *J. Loflingii* are innoxious, although the differences of their specific characters are neither well marked nor readily perceptible. These are pointed out in Sprengel's *Systema Vegetabilium*. To the following genus *Jatropha*, is closely allied *Janipha*, and it was long confounded with it by Linnæus and others.

[JATROPHA CURCAS. *Physic Nut.*

MON. MONADELPH. *Tricoccæ, Lin.*

The whole plant abounds with a thick, transparent juice, having a very harsh and austere taste, and appearing to be powerfully styptic and astringent. This juice imparts a black and durable stain to linen, and gives also a black color to the knife which cuts the wood or branches. It is said to be an excellent application to recent wounds, with a view to stop the hemorrhage. It is frequently applied to the lips to heal those excoriations which are often produced by exposure to the winds and sun of this sultry climate, (chapped lips,) and is certainly a speedy cure for these affections. The nuts are said to be emetic and purgative. Gaertner observes that Boyle was the first to observe that the nuts might be eaten with impunity by first taking out the embryo. If this precaution be neglected they prove violently emetic. The taste is agreeable.]

There are three species of *Jatropha* growing in Barbados—*J. curcas*, *J. gossipifolia*, belly-ache, and *J. multifida*, French physic nut. Collins does not mention the last, nor ascribe medicinal qualities to *J. gossipifolia*; but both of them contain active principles. *J. curcas* is admitted already into the *Materia Medica*,—see *Jahrs' Symptomen Codex*. The late Dr. Wright, of Jamaica, employed a decoction of its leaves in cases of *spasmodic cholera, accompanied by vomiting*, and Lucan mentions a formidable and agonizing case of piles having been cured by the external use of its juice mixed with hog's lard.

[HURA CREPITANS. *Sand-box.*MONÆCIA MONADELPH. Tricoccæ, *Lin.*

Linnaeus says "that the juice, when it gets into the eyes, brings on blindness after the eighth day." I suspect he has been deceived in his information. The juice appears to have some acrimony, and may probably produce immediate inflammation in those tender organs. Nothing however has been observed to be hurtful after that protracted period, although it is frequently cut by the negroes in a green state. The juice has an astringent taste, but is possessed of no very acrid one. The seeds are said to be very acrid and even poisonous. I know they are emetic and purgative, and violent in their action, but relief is soon given by large draughts of warm water. Browne tasted one of the seeds, and it appeared first mild and pleasant, but soon began to warm and scald both his palate and throat, which induced him to consider it as an improper purgative. The leaves are used in applications to the head in nervous headaches, which they often relieve by producing copious perspiration.]

A long proving of *Hura Braziliensis*, another species than the above, will be found in Mure's *Materia Medica*.

[PHYLLANTHUS NIRURI.

MONÆCIA MONAD.

Tricoccæ, *Lin.*

A decoction of this plant is used by the common people for urinary obstructions in cattle.]

The root, leaves, and young shoots of *Phyllanthus Niruri* are considered in India deobstruent, diuretic and healing.

[RICINUS COMMUNIS. *Negro or Castor Oil Bush.*

MONÆC. MONAD.

Tricoccæ, *Lin.*]

The seeds yield the officinal castor oil, and its leaves are used in the Cape de Verd islands as an emmenagogue and galactagogue, under the name of *Bofareira*. See extract from *Lancet* referred to in Dr. Peter's treatise on *Diseases of Married Females*.

[HIPPOMANE MANCINELLA. *Manchineel Tree.*

MONÆCIA MONAD.

Tricoccæ, *Lin.*

The bark and leaves abound in an acrimonious, caustic, milky

juice, which inflames the flesh and excoriates it. It occasions great pain, and frequently fever, if any quantity be applied to the more tender parts of the body. If it gets into the eyes it causes them to inflame much, and to suffer great uneasiness, and it is some time before the use of these organs is sufficiently restored to bear the admission of light.]

All parts of the tree, its leaves, flowers and fruit, abound with the caustic milk, and the very drops of rain falling from the tree, I know from personal experience, will blister the naked skin. Its acrimony is said to be corrected by bathing the blistered parts with lime juice (*Citrus Limonum*), sea water, or by rubbing the affected spot with the leaves of the White-wood, or White Cedar (*Bignonia Leucoxydon*).

[HIPPOMANE BIGLANDULOSA. *Poison Tree.*

MONÆC. MONAD.

Tricoccæ, *Lin.*

The milk from this tree, both from the bark and branches, is very acrid, and I think has all the deleterious and painful qualities of the Manchineel, is fully as violent, and more lasting.]

This is the *Sapium aucuparium*, the juice of which contains an active acrid principle, which renders it equally poisonous, and as much feared, as its congener, the Manchineel. "Tussac mentions a case of a gardener, whose nostrils became swollen and seized with erysipelatous phlegmasis in consequence of the fumes only of this tree."—*Lindley*.

[XANTHOXYLON CLAVA HERCULES. *Prickly Yellow-wood.*

DIECIA PENTANDRIA.

Tooth-ache Tree, *Mill.*

The bark and leaves have a strong, pungent, unpleasant taste, which chiefly affects the tip of the tongue, and produces a tingling sensation in it. This plant seems to possess very austere powers from its strong, aromatic and warm taste, and to promise from its sensible qualities cordial and diaphoretic effects.]

[XANTHOXYLON CARIBÆUM. *Yellow Hercules.*

The decoction of the bark of the roots of this plant is considered as a sovereign remedy in inflammation of the eyes. The fresh root, scraped and used as a poultice is said to be useful in curing inveterate ulcers.]

[CARICA PAPAYA. *Papaw Tree.*

DIÆCIA DECANDRIA. *Tricoccæ, Lin.*

Cucurbitaceis affs., *Juss.*

“The whole of this tree abounds with an acrid milk, which will raise blisters on the hand if suffered to remain any time.”] It thickens or gelatenizes on exposure to the air, and is not entirely soluble in alcohol. [The milk of this tree possesses the peculiar property of causing flesh to dissolve or putrify if rubbed with it.] A larder exposed to the influence of a Papaw tree growing near it, will not keep meats in a sound state. Tough meats, when wrapped in its leaves a short time previous to being cooked, become tender and soft. The flesh of an animal suspended from the tree is soon reduced to the like condition. Pigs fed for some time on the fruit fall to pieces from the spit during the culinary process of roasting, and a tree growing very near a dwelling house, has been known to exercise a prejudicial effect on the health of its inmates, particularly on females, causing with them amenorrhœa, and a cachectic condition resembling chlorosis. There is another circumstance in relation to this tree which is interesting, curious, and I believe isolated in the physiology of plants—the male can be made to produce fruit. [The negroes are accustomed to cut off the top of the male plant and put a large stone to prevent the water (rain) from getting into the trunk, and it then puts out lateral branches and produces fruit. The green fruit when boiled is edible, palatable and wholesome. The smaller varieties are made into pickles, and the larger ones are esteemed as delicious, when ripe, by many persons.

It is recommended in inflammatory cases, and in coughs, consumptions and pectoral complaints.] The leaves are applied externally in rheumatism of the joints, and in headaches. I once saw an application of its leaves, to an abraded surface on the leg of a very old woman, produce horrible sloughing of the member, and death in consequence.

[MIMOSA TORTUOSA. *Akasee, or Sweet Briar.*

POLYGAMIA MONÆCIA. *Lomentaciæ, Lin.*

The root of this plant lies under the aspersion of being a deadly poison. The opinion is not confined to this island but prevails in Jamaica, but I believe without any just or probable foundation.

The root has an unpleasant taste when chewed, but not very powerfully so. So far from being of a poisonous nature, it does not manifest the least degree of acrimony.]

This is *Acacia Tortuosa*.

[MIMOSA HORRIDA. *Nem-nem, or Toothache Tree.*

Horrid Mimosa, Mill.

The juice of the unripe pod is said to be good to cure toothache, absorbed on cotton and applied to the tooth; hence Hughes' name. *Acacia Horrida.*]

[CLUSIA FLAVA. *Balsam Tree.*

POLYGAM MONÆCIA. *Gallifera, Lin.*

The whole tree has a terebinthinous quality, and, when wounded, a thick, viscid, gummy or resinous substance exudes from it, of a strong balsamic taste and smell. The gum is often applied to the sores of horses with success.]

[BURSERA GUMMIFERA. *Birch Gum Tree.*

POLYGAM DICEEA. *Gallifera, Lin.*

The whole tree, as well as the fruit, has a strong terebinthinous and balsamic smell. It exudes a gum, which is supposed to be a good vulnerary, and said to be used for horses, in Jamaica, who require such remedies. This gum is thought by Dr. Wright and others to be no way different from the Elemi (*Amyris Elemifera*). A decoction of the buds and leaves is used by the lower classes in coughs and catarrhs, and may probably be useful in some stages of those diseases.]

This closes the phanerogamic medicinal plants noticed by Dr. Collins. Of the few cryptogamic vegetables which Barbados possesses, he makes mention of some only, and to these he does not ascribe any medicinal virtues.

HALF-YEARLY REPORT OF THE PHILADELPHIA HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY, FROM NOVEMBER 1st TO MAY 1st, 1855,

BY W. T. HELMUTH, M. D.

OUT of the large proportion of persons who, in our city, support the doctrines of Hahnemann, there are comparatively few who are aware of the existence of a Homœopathic Dispensary, which is in full operation in our midst, where advice and medicine can be procured gratis; and among the limited number of individuals who have been notified of the establishment of such an institution, there are, no doubt, some who are ignorant of its locality, its means of support, and of the days and hours that it is open for the reception of patients. Even the profession, excepting those who are immediately connected with the Homœopathic Medical College, from which the Dispensary emanated, and to which it belongs—although they may have been aware of the foundation of the institution, having neither heard nor seen any official report of its progress, gradually have allowed their interest to decline, until finally the subject has totally escaped their mind, and when questioned concerning it, they can give no definite or satisfactory account concerning the position it occupies among the medical institutions of our city.

Dr. Ker, in a paper* entitled "Evidences of the truth of the Homœopathic Law," thus writes: "Evidences of the truth of the law *similia similibus curantur*, cannot be too greatly multiplied; they may confirm believers, remove the doubts of those who are still wavering and convert the skeptical. Such evidence cannot in any manner be more clearly demonstrated than by hospital and dispensary reports, as such are not groundless hypotheses, or dogmatical assertions, but facts, *bona fide* facts, that are undeniable, except by impeaching the veracity of the patients who report themselves at the institution, or by abnegating the truthfulness of the physician who records the amelioration or aggravation of the disease. Now, although it is remarked by Southey that "man is a dupeable animal, and there is scarcely any one who may not, like a trout, be taken

* British Journal of Homœopathy, Vol. VIII., p. 446.

by tickling;" it can scarcely be supposed that any one suffering from violent rheumatism, or one afflicted for years with facial neuralgia, could be "tickled" into reporting himself cured of such affections, particularly when advice and medicine are rendered gratuitously. It must be something more than "humbug, only safe while it lurks in the vagaries of chronic disorders, and among the myriad symptoms of hypochondriasis and hysteria"* that cures such affections; and something less than "powerful alkaloid poisons, in powerful doses,"† that restores the patient to former health, without producing any unpleasant effects.

If the truthfulness of the physician be questioned, the same doubts must arise regarding reports on any subject that have been submitted to the public, whether political, religious or medical.

That Homœopathy spreads rapidly among the more intelligent and refined portion of the community is a fact that cannot be gainsaid; indeed, this is acknowledged, though in a somewhat bitter spirit, by our brethren of the "School of Physic." In a terrible anathema‡ poured out in a most rancorous and vituperative style against "this evil which is stalking abroad," "this silly heresy," this "scandalous and nefarious trade," the following paragraph appears, alluding to the rather apocryphal ejection of Homœopathic physicians from the Edinburgh College. "They will be *plainly* and *forcibly* ejected. Nor will those be spared, who, in weak compliance with *aristocratic* caprice, and in order to steal a march upon their more sturdy and honest competitors,' (i. e. obtain a larger practice) "so far forget what is due to their education, their position, and their duty to their patients, as to countenance and meet in consultation the *pseudo-medical* tribe, who, under the gabardine of Homœopaths, wait upon the weakness and stoop to the humour of the pampered men and women of the *upper ranks of society*. We regret to say, that in London men attending members of the *royal family* have been *singularly* guilty in this respect."

But, however rapidly Homœopathy extends among those in a more elevated social position, its development among the poorer classes is not in the same proportion. And the reason is obvious. In the first place, there are many who, by their daily toil, are

* See London Lancet, November, 1850.

† Op. cit., July, 1851.

‡ Op. cit., July, 1851.

scarcely enabled to maintain their households; and there are others who have been reduced to extremes of want and privation by intemperance and debauchery. Neither of these can afford to remunerate the services of a physician, and therefore, a great number of them are visited by the dispensary physicians of the city; many more apply personally at alms-houses or hospitals for admittance or relief; and as these institutions, with but a single exception, are professedly of alloëopathic principles, the practice is necessarily in accordance with such views. The poor become accustomed to the treatment, perhaps attached to the physician in attendance, and although they may hear of some other method of practice, they cannot be convinced by any reasoning that a small white powder, a few globules, or a spoonful of tasteless liquid, can procure relief, accustomed as they have been to cathartics, diaphoretics, and nauseating antimonials. Moreover, devotion to what has always been considered authority on medical subjects, to opinions inculcated for years, and to established routine, cannot, without much moral courage, be set aside by the most learned and scientific; it cannot, therefore, be supposed that the ignorant and perhaps the bigoted, should at once depart from a beaten track, "so oft traversed before," and enter an unknown path, with prospects entirely dissimilar to those to which they have been accustomed. It would, therefore, be of infinite service to the wider diffusion of Homœopathy, and be the means of preventing an immense amount of suffering, disease, and even death, if there was connected with this dispensary an "out-door" physician, whose duty it should be to visit such of the poor who are unable to apply personally for relief at the institution. Many cures would, no doubt, result; these would be undeniable facts, and what to day is fact, to-morrow will be doctrine.

It may not be uninteresting in this place to subjoin a brief account of the origin and progress of the institution that forms the subject of this paper.

The earliest information concerning the establishment of the Philadelphia Homœopathic Dispensary, is recorded in the minute book of the Homœopathic Medical College of this state. A portion of a resolution, dated August 31, 1848, reads thus: "That a Dispensary be established, and that a committee of arrangements in relation to the Dispensary be appointed." This committee was appointed; and on September 7th of the same year offered a pre-

amble and resolutions to the corporators of the college, in which the committee expressed their conviction that the establishment of a Clinical Department was indispensable to the usefulness and completeness of the college. Shortly after, a subscription book was opened, and the requisite means obtained to establish the institution. On September 16th a building had been engaged for the united purpose of college and dispensary ; and at a meeting held the same day, the Board of Managers issued orders to procure the furniture necessary for carrying forward the enterprise. On September 28th, the apothecary was elected, and a resolution was adopted, that "the committee of arrangements be authorized to put the dispensary in operation, and transact any further business necessary to its organization."

From that time forward the institution has been in full and successful operation ; but there has been no official report of its proceedings submitted to the public or to the profession, as the prescribing physician is not required by either constitution or by-laws to mention its proceedings.

The physicians are elected semi-annually by the faculty of the college, and the dispensary is open every day, excepting Sunday, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock, for the reception of patients.

That the poor of our city are beginning to avail themselves of the benefits of Homœopathic treatment, is obvious by referring to the subjoined statistics. The room is frequently thronged with individuals eager for relief, indeed, it is often necessary to close the doors of the institution. There are very few cases of dangerous acute affections treated, unless in the first stages, because the patients are, of course, unable to apply when such diseases are fully developed. The most acute cases that are prescribed for, are those of infants and young children, who are carried by their parents or friends, and those few that are visited at their houses, through the kindness of physicians who chance to be present during prescribing hours.

Although the benefits are, no doubt, very great that are conferred upon those whose circumstances do not permit them to remunerate a physician ; the report, when transmitted to paper, appears, at first sight, to be very imperfect, and the treatment not so successful as might have been anticipated ; but it must be remembered that there are very many patients who apply at the dispensary and are relieved, and perhaps cured, by one or two prescriptions ; such, excepting in

rare instances, do not return to mention the success of the treatment, unless they renew their application for some other disorder, or the cure is incidentally mentioned by the family, or friends, who themselves require medical assistance. It is on this account that there is in the following statistics, such a number of cases unheard from, and so many that can only be reported as relieved; many of these may have been cured, particularly the latter class, but, not having returned, the report can only state the condition of the patient when the last medicine was prescribed.

That such incompleteness in dispensary reports is not alone connected with the Philadelphia Homœopathic Dispensary, the reader may refer to the British Journal of Homœopathy (Vol. IV., p. 326). In the article alluded to, there may also be found some useful suggestions for preventing, to a certain extent, such irregularity.

But besides alleviating the sufferings of the poor, the dispensary fulfils another very important mission in its connection with the Homœopathic Medical College; it affords opportunity to the attending students to observe the effect of the medicines, prescribed according to the law—*similia similibus curantur*.

The Dispensary having been established in the college building, the patients are readily sent to the lecture room; before the whole class of students they relate their symptoms, which are recorded in the order they are mentioned, by a secretary appointed for the purpose. The requisite questions relating to the symptoms of the disease are asked by the professor, who explains the nature of the affection, and mentions the medicines that are the best adapted to the case, at the same time recommending the dilution that should be employed. The prescription is then written, and handed to the patient, who presents it to the prescribing dispensary physician, who in his turn records it on the books of the institution, and has the medicine prepared. Each individual receives, together with the powders, a "diet card," whereon is printed the aliment allowed and forbidden those who are under Homœopathic treatment.

It is in this manner that the students are taught *practical* Homœopathy. They *hear* explanations of the theory from every chair in the college, they *read* and are *told* of the wonderful effects produced by the exhibition of infinitesimal doses of a drug prescribed in accordance with the law of "similia." But by means of the Dispensary, *practice*, the "sine qua non" of the physician, is unfolded to them; they *see* the patients, hear a detailed account of their

sufferings, and *can observe* the action of the medicine, besides being instructed in those minutiae of practice, inculcated by experience, that so distinctly mark the accomplished physician.

Before concluding this report, it will not be uninteresting to offer a few remarks concerning an epidemic influenza that prevailed to a considerable extent during the past spring, but which under Homœopathic treatment was easily subdued.

Those cases of this affection that were treated at the Dispensary, and others from private practice, exhibited the following symptoms.

The disorder commenced with chilliness, loss of appetite, headache; photophobia and profuse lachrymation accompanying, together *with violent pains in the bones*; all parts of the body were affected, head, neck, back and extremities. The patient invariably mentioned "that the pain was in the bones, and that they were sore all over." Contact increased the sufferings, and infants could not be moved or even raised on a pillow, without screaming as if in the most intolerable agony; the fever was intense, with cheeks flushed, glistening eyes, together with considerable perspiration and great debility. In some instances, there were drawing, darting pains throughout the system, and these together with the bone pains, were the characteristics of the complaint.

This epidemic resembled, in many respects, one that is said to have prevailed about forty or fifty years ago, in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, excepting that the catarrhal symptoms were not to such a degree present in the latter.

The medicines that were, in most instances, capable, not only of curing, but also of shortening the attack, were *Phos. acid.* and *Staphys.*, together with *Acon.* or *Bell.* The last two remedies allayed the febrile symptoms in a short time, and *Phos. ac.* and *Staphys.*—the latter, particularly, if shooting or drawing pains were present; the former for the intense aching bruised feeling in the bones—were sufficient to complete the cure.

There are also many very interesting and instructive cases that have been successfully treated—among them neuralgias of ten to twenty years' standing, scrofulous ophthalmia, and some eruptive diseases that had resisted allœopathic treatment for years, and particularly an ovarian tumour that *disappeared* by the use of *Apis*. Time will not, however, allow any details to be mentioned, as the report has already been increased to a much greater extent than was first intended.

Diseases.	Prescribed for.	Cured.	Relieved.	Not heard from.	Diseases.	Prescribed for.	Cured.	Relieved.	Not heard from.
Abscess, mammary,	1	1			Brought forward,	225	119	40	117
“ lymphatic,	1	1			Hæmoptysis,	4	3		1
Alopecia,	1	1			Headache,	36	10	5	21
Amenorrhœa,	11	8	1	2	Helminthiasis,	10	3	3	4
Anasacra,	3		1	2	Hemorrhage from				
Angina faucium,	16	6	3	7	rectum.	2	1	1	
“ pectoris,	2			2	Hemorrhoids,	5	1	3	1
Anorexia,	3	3		2	Hepatitis,	4	1	2	1
Apoplexy,	1				Hernia,	1		1	
Asthma,	2	1		1	Heart hypertrophy,	2		1	1
Atrophia neonato-					“ sympathetic				
rum,	2	2			palpitation,	2		1	1
Bronchitis,	3	1		2	Hysteria,	4		2	2
Cancer of nose,	1			Worse	Influenza,	18	13	1	4
Cataract,	3		2	1	Icterus,	1	1		
Catarrh,	14	8		6	Laryngitis, acute,	24	13	1	10
“ Infantile,	6	4	1	1	Laryngitis, chronic,	12	5	4	3
Chorea,	2		1	1	Leucorrhœa,	7	1	5	1
Constipation,	4			4	Lumbago,	2			2
Convulsions,	6	3	1	2	Metrorrhagia,	1	1		
Colica saturnina,	2	1		1	Neuralgia,	6	3	2	1
Cough,	29	12	2	15	Neuralgia facial,	16	8	1	7
Coxalgia,	2		1	1	Odontalgia,	2		2	
Cramp,	1			1	Ophthalmia,	2	1		1
Croup,	6	5		1	Ophthalmia catarrh'l	6	4	1	1
Cynanche tonsil-					Ophthalmia scroful's	2	1		1
laris,	11	5	2	4	Otalgia,	2	1		1
Contusions,	3	3			Otorrhœa,	6	2	3	1
Deafness,	1			1	Ozœna,	7		4	3
Debility, nervous,	7	2	2	3	Paralysis,	1		1	
Diarrhœa,	13	8		5	“ of tongue,	3		2	1
Dysentery,	3	2		1	Phthisis pulmonal's	18		13	5
Dyspepsia,	35	10	13	12	“ incipient,	2	1		1
Enuresis,	3	1	1	1	Phlegmasia alba-				
Epilepsy,	2		2		dolens,	1	1		
Epistaxis,	2	1		1	Pertussis,	6	5		1
Eruptions,					Pleuritis,	3	2	1	
Crusta-lactea,	6	1	3	2	Pleurodynia,	6	5		1
Eczema rubrum,	4	1		3	Ptyalism mercurial,	4	2	1	1
Furuncle,	2	2			Pyrosis.	4	2	1	1
Herpes labialis,	1	1			Rheumatism,	25	10	4	11
Petechiæ,	2	1			Spinal curvature,	1		1	
Psoriasis, palmaris,	1	1			Stomatitis,	4	3	1	
Scabies,	4	2		2	Strabismus,	1		1	
Tinea Capitis,	2	1		1	Strangury,	3	2		1
Urticaria,	1	1			Syphilis,	2	2		
Variola,	4	4			Taenia,	2		1	Worse
Warts,	1	1			Tumour in abdomen	1	1		
Fever, intermittent,	16	9		7	Tumour schirrus in				
Fistulo in ano,	2		1	1	mammæ,	1	operat'd on and cured.		
Fistula-lachry,	2		1	1	Tympanitis,	3	1		2
Gangrene, from					Ulcers,				
cold,	1	1			“ on cornea,	1	1		
Gastralgia,	5	2		3	“ Indolent,	4	3		1
Gastritis,	1	1			“ Irritable,	1	1		
Glandular swell'ngs	6	1	1	4	“ Varicose,	2	2		
Glossitis,	2			2	Vertigo,	12	8	1	3
Gonorrhœa,	1	1			Whitlow,	3	3		
Hæmatemesis,	1	1			Wounds,	1	1		
	225	119	40	117	Total,	565	249	111	205

REMARKS ON A RESOLUTION

Passed by The American "Medical" Association at their late Convention in Philadelphia.

BY JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M. D.

"Quid dignum tanto feret hic promissor hiatu?"—HORACE.

What will this boaster do worthy of all this gaping?

Very lately the pseudo-grand medical association of the Western world held its days of profound deliberation in our City. 'Twas then they left to posterity a mighty monument of resuscitated science and new-born genius!

We have paused a moment to consider the sublime height of this structure, which must remind future generations of the vast accumulations of wit, wisdom and liberality which concentrated themselves in the midst of that august body! So wonderful their new discoveries, so many the additions they made to medical Science,—so large and bright the jewels they set in the already splendid tiara which decks the brow of our goddess, that we felt inclined to stand and gaze at the most respectful distance on the incomprehensible splendor of doings and sayings so far beyond the reach of mere reasoners and quiet thinkers;—who know no other philosophy, no other craft, than to use their small modicum of learning and mental ability to lay hold of every new truth and every useful discovery which Time and ever-teeming Nature reveal, to move forward with the progressing age, and lend a hand to those who move along with them.

But we have not been allowed to occupy this distant, neutral and silent station unmolested; a shot from this medical battery disturbed us. It was, it is true, a very harmless one, for the aim seemed doubtful and the powder rather damp; yet it reminded us that we were noticed and challenged for the pass-word. And although the gauntlet thus thrown before us be but one of indifferent metal, and the glave has a broken point and blunted edge, still, we take our stand in the lists. The challenge then runs, or rather rambles, in these words, without alteration or amendment, cut from the Public Ledger of our good city—

“The following resolution, offered by Dr. J. L. Atlee, was unanimously agreed to:—”

“Resolved, That any such unnatural union as the mingling of an exclusive system, such as Homœopathy with Scientific Medicine, in a School, setting aside all questions of its untruthfulness, cannot fail, by the destruction of union and confidence, and the production of confusion and disorder, unsettling and distracting the minds of the learners, to so far impair the usefulness of teaching as to render any School adopting such a policy unworthy the support of the profession.”

We hardly think it would be dignified or even needful for us to notice a few phrases—or rather an attempt at phrase making—so vile, so inaccurate, so ill-arranged, so devoid of the signs even of a decent elementary education in a common school, as to give rise to a doubt whether the boot-boy of some hotel had not tried his philological skill to relieve the Doctor from so heavy a share of the labors of the day—were it not that the thing appears before the public indorsed by the *unanimous voice* of all this learned conclave—a conclave so learned that it can afford to dispense with the assistance of its mother tongue when talking before the people of the commonwealth!

Now, as nearly as it is possible for us to arrive at an approximation of what was intended to be expressed by this grotesque collocation of disjointed and ungrammatical verbiage, thrown together by a kind of chance medley; it is an attempt to express once more an opinion that Allopathy *is a Science*, that Homœopathy is *not*; and that therefore their respective students should not meet at the same seat of learning. If the Doctor could call up from the depths of his vast stores the definitions of his school days, he would be more cautious in the use he makes of words; he would not overlook the fact that a Science, properly so called, must be based upon fixed rules, laws or principles,—upon definitions, axioms and deductions,—and would find it somewhat difficult to bring under this head a system of bleeding, blistering, leeching, purging, cauterizing, drugging and dosing, *ad libitum*, in the hands of every unlettered clown who spends a couple of seasons in a medical school, and is then turned adrift, without rule or guide but his own judgment, as to when, where and how he shall have recourse to practices so coarse and so dangerous, that even cattle are now becoming happily exempt from

them! It is worse than useless, then, to try to foster the notion that this horrid barbarism of the dark ages, is a *science*, or has any claim to the title. If the "Medical Association" choose to think so it is their right and their privilege, nor should we deem it necessary to remind them of their delusion if they had not given the initiative. That it is really a *delusion* we trust to be able to prove more at large bye and bye.

But surely this resolution is entirely gratuitous, for when did the disciples of Homœopathy seek the union or shelter which this body affects so gravely to deny, or upon which it desires to fulminate its mystic anathema.

If the legislative wisdom of some Western and Southern States, impressed by the superior success of our practice in dealing with the plagues which scourge the population of those regions, and with eyes more open and hearts more impressible to truth, have placed our physicians over their public Hospitals and thrown open their state universities to professors of our school, they were unsolicited honors, forced upon us by a people who are so fully alive to their own interests, that they will "do what is right come what may." If people will rather place their lives in the keeping of a system which saves ninety-one lives out of every hundred, than trust to one under which thirty-nine out of every hundred are lost, when cholera is doing its fearful deathwork among them, no one has a right to complain; freedom of thought and action is the birthright of the American people. If the people of the South and West have done this, we ask not the people of the East to do the like for us. No, we shall soon have more urgent and powerful solicitors to whose loud demand no denial can be given; Yellow-Fever, and Cholera, before whose footsteps these men and their *strange resolutions* shall retire with the impotence of soldiers who *to-day* would meet a terrible and all-powerful foe, in the antiquated armour of Egypt or Greece. Such resolutions then are uncalled for, since we seek no collision with the body which was represented in that meeting; we desire no union with them, their practice, their school or their consultations, either privately or publicly till they turn from what we deem an evil and a dangerous mode of treating the sick; oil and water cannot combine, neither can a well-defined and rational system of healing in accordance with the universal laws of nature, desire any alliance with this wornout drudge, so lame, so crippled, so slow, as to be forced at last

into the service of the druggist to do a large share of his most indifferent work.

Now after fifty or sixty years of progress are we reduced to this necessity, or is our position at home and abroad such as to force us to beg the shelter these men so pompously forbid?

Let us examine what this position really is and contrast it with that of the men who cannot meet to transact their own affairs without letting the world know, in their peculiar manner, that we are very much in their way. But this must form the subject of a future paper.

CASE OF MALFORMATION.

BY JOHN R. COKE, JR., M. D.

On the 14th of April, 1855, I was called to see Mrs. A. B., then in labour with her first child.

After a not difficult, but rather tedious labour, she gave birth to a fine well formed boy, of about eight and a half pounds weight. The child took the breast about two hours after its birth, and sucked heartily, the mother having milk secreted. In about six hours he urinated freely, and at the expiration of twelve hours, as he had no stool, the nurse gave him several spoonfuls of molasses and water. When he was twenty-four hours old, I gave him several teaspoonfuls of Olive oil, as he had not yet had a stool, and at the expiration of thirty-six hours, I began to suspect the existence of malformation, particularly as he shewed unmistakeable signs of pain, and great uneasiness. I therefore informed the father, I was under the impression a malformation existed, and that his child would necessarily die. In this emergency I administered a teaspoonful of Castor oil, and repeated it every three hours, until four spoonsful had been taken.

I had carefully examined the anus, and found no difficulty in inserting the little finger its whole length.

At the expiration of the third day, the child refused the breast, (he had previously sucked heartily every four hours,) and also refused to swallow, or was unable. I left him at 6 P. M., he being then three days and sixteen hours old, and informed the father I was of opinion he would expire before sunrise. On my return at 8 A. M.

next day, I found he had died in spasms, at 10½ P.M. the day previous, being exactly three days and twenty hours old. Putrefaction had already made such rapid progress, that the body was extremely offensive. I requested permission to examine the body, it was readily granted, but as I had no instruments with me, was a long distance from my office, and could not in a reasonable time procure the assistance of any Physician, as putrefaction was so far advanced, I concluded to open the body with a penknife. I did so, by cutting the abdomen from the os pubis to the sternum, and then discovered a stomach rather larger than the normal size, a duodenum of at least four times the natural dimensions, and to which was attached a membranous bag, which when distended, would have probably contained a pint and an half. This bag I opened, and its contents, oil, milk, molasses and water, gushed out. The stench was so extreme, as to render it impossible to ascertain with the necessary accuracy, the position and appearance of the other viscera, but I observed nothing abnormal in the lungs, heart, liver, kidneys, or bladder.

There was not a vestige of intestines to be seen, nor was there any opening in the bag attached to the duodenum. I sewed up the abdomen, and the child was buried an hour after.

In searching for similar cases recorded in medical authors, I have been unable to find any exactly corresponding, but I give here a few of the malformations recorded in various works, which in some measure resemble the case above described.

The celebrated Haller mentions several instances of foetuses being born without a stomach, as well as without lungs, heart, liver and spinal marrow.

Le Cat, a very celebrated author, mentions a foetus born without head, heart, lungs, stomach or spleen.

Dr. John Clarke, gives an account of a foetus, in which none of the viscera necessary to digestion, were present, except a trifling portion of the smaller intestines.

Dr. Munro mentions a small foetus in whom were wanting the stomach and all the small intestines, save a portion of the ilium.

Bonetus, and many other celebrated medical writers mention many cases of a similar kind, but there are none, so far as I can discover, exactly coinciding with the case I have above recorded, and in a rather extensive obstetrical practice, I have never before met with a malformation of any kind, or description.

OUR ZEAL.

BY DAVID DOSOMETHING, M. D.

HOMŒOPATHY either is, or is not, what it professes to be, and its practitioners either believe that it is a great reality or they do not, or, perhaps, are not “prepared to say!” Now, each of these propositions is independent of the other, and can be debated on its own merits; since the faith of any number of advocates can never establish the truth of any system of religion or philosophy. The advocates may be numerous, zealous and devoted, but the creed be false, dark and terrible;—the dogma, silly, contemptible, deceptive. The converse is likewise true; the revelation may be from heaven, though it have but *one* believer; the discovery may be genuine, and *the discoverer its only* revealer and advocate. Now, enough has been written on both sides of this great question to satisfy every professional man who can come to the subject, with an unbiassed mind and as a disinterested inquirer; so that as far as the necessities of men, who desire to choose to which school they will attach themselves, or under which flag they will sail, demand it, all has been said and written that needs to be said and written; and if not one word more of a controversial nature should ever appear, the wants of the professional and scientific inquirer are abundantly provided for. But is this the case with respect to the community at large? If painful circumstances should arise,—and they are of daily occurrence—to call their attention to the comparative merits of the *two* systems of medical treatment which present themselves to their anxious inquiries, do they know indeed to which they should “fly for relief?”

Upon all other subjects—moral, religious and political—they may quickly inform themselves by the aid of papers, tracts, pamphlets, and books, as numerous, and almost as cheap, as the commonest of the necessities of life; but when the inquiry respecting the best mode of warding off disease, of treating it when it is present, and of saving the life of the young, the beautiful, or the valuable member of the family from its fearful grasp arises, all is doubt, darkness, ignorance and uncertainty; no voice which can enlighten, no book that can teach, no tract that would throw out a few hints, that may lead the inquirer into the proper channel! No, a life-experiment must be made!—the Croup, the Scarlet Fever, or the Cholera, has paid its visit; the cry is raised,—“call some doctor—any doctor—the nearest doctor—any one who calls himself doctor!—to fight this

terrible foe !” The battle rages ; the doctor, through ignorance, or a worthless and vicious system of treatment, is worsted ; disease gives to death the spoils of the victory ; and there is heard, “mourning, lamentation and woe.” And then comes the useless regret, that the treatment of *another* medical system had not been substituted !

Here is a picture not uncommon ; it is one to be found in every dwelling, it has darkened every home, it is engraved upon almost every heart. Upon other subjects of vital importance people are forewarned and foretaught. The religious tract-distributor, has many a time and oft dropped at the door his unostentatious, silent little instructor, to show the pathway to heaven, when death has foiled the doctor, and the dark and silent grave is the inevitable doom. But no such messenger was ever known to precede the day of sickness, to warn the victim against the drug store, and to point out the new, the glorious health-restorer in the few globules, or the single drop, of the homœopathist. But truly religious men believe their creed ; they love it, they prize it, they live for it, they die for it, and therefore, the tract finds out every house—the mansion, the cottage and the hovel ! All are taught, all may, if they will, be saved. But we, homœopathists, believe we have a new truth,—a life-saving, disease-destroying principle ; and yet, strange to say, we only tell this to those who “*call us in and pay us !*” WE distribute no tracts, we circulate no information, we send forth no home or foreign missionary to tell this glad tidings of great joy to all the people ; this new gospel of health, that if indeed true, as we pretend it is, must have come down from God as sure as any other truth has ever come ! for He is the fountain of *all* truth. This pure science of life which we hold should teach another lesson, a lesson of expansive benevolence ; we should try and save the people ; we should have them forewarned before disease came ; they should be aware of our existence, of all we profess and promise to do when cholera and yellow fever mow down the people, who do not know, and never did know, that the homœopathic physician can, if faithful to his system, rescue them from the grasp of these fearful destroyers ! If the physicians of our school are true, faithful, honorable disciples of a great life-saving truth, like this, the country, the town, the city, the hamlet, the court and the alley, will be deluged with simple truth-telling tracts on this vital subject before the end of the coming season. We have now “thrown our bread upon the waters.” The publishers, we are happy to see, have offered to supply all with the seeds of truth. Let them be scattered far and wide. We confidently

assure the sowers that according to the unfailing laws of nature, they will reap an abundant harvest of health for the people, and even of *wealth for themselves*—that is, for such of them as can be prompted to action by no more powerful inducement than “*a shower of gold.*”

A short time since a well-informed and fashionable lady friend of ours charged us with being professionally associated with a system upon which the grandees of our quaker city frowned as “not fashionable enough” for “our people.” We very modestly replied, that we were but poor judges of such matters, only that we felt sure that *one-third*, at least, of the inhabitants were devoted to our school: and that as far as we could judge, *one-third* of the fine clothes, fine houses, fine furniture and bank stock belonged to them:—and, further, that *one-third* of the honesty, independence and liberality would be found in the same quarter; and lastly, that *one-third* of the education, intelligence and intellectual development was in their keeping.—We were doubtful whether we might not have claimed a much larger proportion of the last named qualities, but we never push matters to extremes. We also added mildly, that the great men recorded by history, whom Time has thought worthy of a cœqual life with himself, did not appear to have been “people of fashion,” but only great thinkers, great doers and great self-deniers—and, indeed, that some of the most noble of them forgot themselves so much as to allow their lives to be taken for the good of others. When we asked our friend if she remembered whether any “people of fashion” had done as much, she could not exactly call to mind any, and her memory is remarkably good. Moreover, we informed her that a very dear friend of ours had learned all he knew of this system among the very aristocracy of a very old and very proud people living in a large island in the Atlantic ocean—and we closed our conversation by reading the following scrap, cut away from a paper the same friend had given us in the morning:—“A deputation consisting of the following noblemen and gentlemen, had an interview with Lord Panmure on Thursday, and presented a memorial praying that a civil hospital at Smyrna, or elsewhere in the neighborhood of the theatre of war, might be appropriated for the treatment of soldiers and sailors, according to the Homœopathic system:—The Earl of Essex, Lord Lavaine, M. P., General Sir John Doveton, K. C. B., Admiral Gambier, Colonel Wyndham, Colonel Taylor, R. A., and Captain Fishbourne, R. N. The deputation was introduced by Lord Robert Grosvenor. The memorial was signed by *twenty-two members of the House of Lords*, military and naval officers and others, and set forth the number of officers and men now serving in the East who had confidence in no other curative method, A memorial of a similar nature was also presented to his Lordship, the result of a public meeting in Manchester.”—*London Evening Mail*, April 20th, 1855.

EDITORIAL.

Some time since, we were pleased to read, in one of our daily journals, the following paragraph:—"HOMŒOPATHY IN MICHIGAN—A bill has been passed, establishing a chair of Homœopathy in the medical department of the State University of Ann Arbor." Such news was pleasing indeed, and plainly indicated the increasing momentum with which our science is being propelled through the more remote portions of our country. But what to the members of the Homœopathic profession was (to be *regular and scientific* in expression,) merely a "healthy tonic," proved to our brethren of the old school, rather an indigestible article; indeed, judging from the *effusions* it has produced, which, it may be observed, were all on the *surface*, it has proved quite a *diaphoretic*.

¶ The thaumaturgical resolution unanimously adopted by the medical convention that so lately held their important deliberations in our city, concerning the passage of the already referred to bill by the Legislature of Michigan, has been fully dwelt upon in another portion of this Journal, and also,—chiefly from its curiosity as a literary production,—in several of our daily and weekly periodicals; it therefore needs no further comment.

But it has lately been currently reported, that the Legislature of the above mentioned State, has no power whatever over the University; that the committee appointed to inquire concerning the propriety of establishing such a professorship, after having thoroughly investigated the matter, and being unable to discover any precedent in the hospitals, colleges and universities abroad, had become convinced of the futility of attempting to combine in one institution the different practices, and that they had unanimously resolved that a chair of homœopathy could not, with any propriety, be allowed to exist in their university. Many such rumors are afloat, and numerous scraps from various periodicals, bear testimony to the zeal with which certain interested parties are endeavoring, by "stuffing the ears of men with false reports," to prevent the exposition of the law of simile. We chance to have one of these fugitive articles in our possession. It is one of the most impartial we have perused, and probably contains a fair statement of the case. It reads thus:—"HOMŒOPATHY—At the recent session of the Legislature of Michigan, an act was passed, establishing a professorship of homœopathy in the University of that State. It seems, however, that the Legislature have only an advisory power in the premises, as the constitution of the State vests the control of the University in a Board of Regents elected by the people, one from each judicial district, and holding office for six years. These Regents, it is said, see *no* reason for complying with the recommendation, but have appointed a committee to

examine the subject of the feasibility of connecting homœopathy with the old school of medicine in the same institution. This will involve an investigation of the homœopathic system, and a report of the subject will be submitted to the Legislature. It is anticipated that the report will be unfavorable."

With regard to the latter portion of the quotation, we are not so positive, particularly if the committee appointed, conduct an impartial investigation, and report with candor. The kingdom of Bavaria, of the Grand Duchy of Baden and other German states, have *authorized* professorships in their public universities. Hospitals, in which the patients were formerly exclusively treated in accordance with allopathic principles, have, at the present time, extensive wards set apart for the treatment of disease according to the law of Hahnemann. Indeed, there are numerous professors who have publicly embraced homœopathy, and who still occupy "their accustomed places" in the Universities of Europe. Probably, therefore, when such facts are made known to the "Regents," through their committee, and as the Legislature, with its "advising power," has already recommended the establishment of a chair of homœopathy, the result will be in accordance with the wishes of those influential members of the Executive body, through whose instrumentality the passage of the act was accomplished.

That the question is being discussed and our cause is being well supported by the friends of our system in the "far west," the following article from the *Detriot*, (Michigan) "Free Press" is sufficient evidence:—

"HOMŒOPATHIC PROFESSORS IN EUROPE—Mr. Editor:—A statement has been, and is being circulated, that the Regents of our University have refused to appoint a homœopathic professor in compliance with the late act of the Legislature. This is a mistake. We have been informed by one of the Regents that they appointed a committee to make inquiries in regard to existing homœopathic professorships in the Universities of Europe—if there are any such—it having been represented to them that none such exist.

As such a statement is frequently made by the opposers of the new professorship, and as they represent that it is impossible to have the two systems taught in the same institution, as though the experiment had never been tried, we take the following list of homœopathic professors from *The British and Foreign Homœopathic Medical Directory and Record*, for 1855, edited by GEORGE ATKIN, M. D., Edinburg, and published in London by GROOMBRIDGE & SONS.

First.—Professors of homœopathy, and also professors who occupy chairs in which the effects or use of medicines in the treatment of diseases is taught, and necessarily teach homœopathy:

1. Dr. T. BUCHNER, Professor of Homœopathy in the University of Munich.

2. Dr. F. ARNOLD, Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the University of Zurich.

3. Dr. HENDERSON, Professor of Medicine and General Pathology, and lately one of the Professors of Clinical Medicine in the University of Edinburgh.

4. Dr. EDWARD MARTIN, Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the University of Jena.

5. Dr. JANER, Dean of the Faculty, and Professor of Clinical Medicine, University of Barcelona.

6. Dr. CHEVALIER DE HORATIIS, Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the University of Naples, and President of the Royal Academy of Medicine.

7. Dr. LAMBRECHT, Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the University of Padua.

8. Dr. J. A. WEBER, Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the University of Freyburg.

9. Dr. QUADRI, Professor of Ophthalmic Surgery, Naples.

10. Dr. H. ARNITH, Professor of Midwifery in the General Hospital, Vienna.

11. Dr. BIGEL, Professor of Midwifery in the University of St. Petersburg.

12. Dr. BOTTO, Professor of Surgery in the University of Genoa.

Secondly.—Professors who are acknowledged homœopathists, but the particular department in which they teach not stated :

13. Professor LEUPOLDT, of the University of Erlangen.

14. Dr. REUBEL, Professor in the University of Munich.

15. Professor QUADRANTI, University of Naples.

16. Professor RIBES, of Montpellier.

17. Professor TAGLIANANI, of Ascoli.

Thirdly.—Professors who are avowed Homœopathists, but who fill chairs which have nothing to do with the effect or administration of medicines :

18. Dr. FOLCH, Professor of Pathology, University of Barcelona.

19. Dr. KIRSCHLEGER, Professor of Botany in the University of Strasbourg.

20. Dr. MALY, Professor of Dietetics in the University of Gratz.

21. Dr. M. McDONALD, Professor of Civil and Natural History in the University of St. Andrews.

Homœopathy in the General Hospital of Madrid.—For a number of years, homœopathy has been practised in this Hospital with so much success, that the Queen has, by royal mandate, sanctioned the establishment

of two chairs for the teaching of homœopathy: one for Clinical, the other for Theoretical lectures—Drs. RIO and NUNEZ, Professors.

Gumpendorf Homœopathic Hospital, Vienna.—Physicians: Dr. FLIESCHMAN, Dr. WRUMB; Assistant Physician—Dr. CASPER. This institution was formerly called the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity, and is well known, both in Britain and on the Continent, as an object of interest, as well as of abuse. The Hospital was opened in 1832 for the reception of cholera patients, from which period, till January, 1835, a half homœopathic-allopathic system of treatment was pursued. In 1835, Dr. FLEISCHMAN was appointed Hospital physician, and having resolved fairly to try the strength of homœopathy, he got rid of all allopathic drugs, and treated every case of disease which presented itself homœopathically. The success of Dr. FLEISCHMAN's experiments is well known. The Hospital of the Sisters of Charity at Vienna has been largely frequented by medical men from all parts of Europe, who are anxious to see homœopathic practice; and certainly, homœopathy is much indebted for its present position in the world to the ability and zeal of the physicians, and to the care and kindness of the nurses of this Hospital. Through the interest of Dr. FLEISCHMAN, and on account of the success attending the homœopathic treatment of disease in this Hospital, the Emperor of Austria was induced to rescind the statute which forbade the practice of homœopathy in the Austrian dominions, and also to establish an institution in Vienna for the teaching of homœopathy, under the protection of the government, and with Dr. WRUMB at its head as principal.

Homœopathic Hospital, St. Petersburg.—The Minister of the Interior (in 1848) placed one-half of a female Hospital under the care of Dr. STENDER, homœopathic physician, in order that, side by side with allopathy, the merits of homœopathy might be made to appear. The experiment continues to demonstrate the utility of the last named system.

There is also a notice of twelve other homœopathic hospitals.

For the "aid and comfort" of those who are representing, and trying to persuade themselves, that homœopathy is on the decline in the land of its birth,—or Europe,—we copy the following list of "homœopathic Court Physicians:"

Dr. AEGIDI, Physician to H. R. H., Princess Wilhelm, of Prussia.

Dr. ALTMULLER, Surgeon to H. S. H., the Grand Duke of Hesse.

Dr. BACKHAUSEN, Physician to H. R. H., the Princess Frederick of Prussia.

Dr. CRAMER, Physician to H. R. H., the Grand Duke of Baden.

Dr. GOULLON, Physician to H. R. H., the Grand Duke of Weimar.

Dr. HARTUNG, Medicin en Chef of the Austrian army in Italy, was Physician to H. I. M., the Empress Marie Louisa.

Dr. HUNTSMANN, Physician to Prince Von Reuss, at Ebersdorff.

Dr. HURTZ, Physician to H. S. H., the Duchess of Anhalt-Dessau, Princess of Prussia.

Dr. LEHMAN, Physician to H. S. H., the Duke of Anhalt-Koethen.

Dr. MARENZELLER, (Physician-General to the Austrian armies,) Physician to H. I. H., Archduke John of Austria.

Dr. QUIN, Physician Extraordinary to the King of the Belgians; Physician in Ordinary to H. R. H., the Duchess of Cambridge.

Dr. NECKER, Physician Extraordinary to H. M., the King of Prussia.

Dr. NUNEZ, Physician to Her Most Catholic Majesty the Queen of Spain, Chevalier of the Order of Charles III. and of the Legion of Honor.

Dr. SCHMIDT, Physician to H. S. H., the Duke of Lucca, Staff Physician to H. S. H., the Duke of Saxe-Eeiningen.

Dr. VORBORD, Surgeon to H. S. H., the Duke of Saxe-Coburg.

Dr. WEBER, Physician to His Majesty the King of Hanover.

From the above list of homœopathic professors, it will be seen that there are not less than twelve who teach the effects and use of homœopathic remedies, and four more who very likely do the same. It is true that there is but one of the number, Dr. BUCHNER, who is directly styled Professor of Homœopathy; and, as we understand that the allopathic professors at Ann Arbor are striving to justify their representations that there are no homœopathic professors in the Universities of Europe, by representing that, if there are any professors who are homœopathists, they have become such since their appointment, we will examine this question a moment. It will be seen that there are seven who are professors of either medicine, theory and practice of medicine, or clinical medicine. Now, one of two things is certain—either they were appointed because they were homœopathists, that they might teach the system side by side with the allopathic professors, or, these homœopathic professors became homœopathists while filling chairs in their respective Universities, and have been permitted to retain them, and allopathy is not thought worthy of being taught. Now, this is certainly giving to homœopathy, a standing or position, which our friends, the professors at Ann Arbor, may be slow to admit. Or it is barely possible that these Universities, owing to the progress of homœopathy, are regarded as homœopathic; and possibly, in this case, a professor of allopathy may have been appointed to keep students in memory of the past. But let our worthy professors take which horn of the dilemma they please, the fact stands forth that, in the Universities named, homœopathy is taught by not less than twelve professors, and is represented by twenty-one; and yet we hear of no “explosions”—no “resignations.” We really think our professors may take courage, and that the Regents may not borrow trouble at the prospect of a very great “explosion.”

Is it true that there is more bigotry and intolerance among medical men in Michigan than in the despotic countries of Europe?—and that our professors at Ann Arbor cannot stand having anything taught different from what they teach, and are actually striving to overawe the Regents, and to deter them from making the appointment which the law requires? “The professors will resign,” is the cry. Well, let them “resign.” The homœopaths will not shed many tears, for every one will perceive that their resignation will be a death-blow to allopathy, and great a triumph as homœopathy has ever yet achieved. **

From the British Journal of Homœopathy, April 1st, 1855.

HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL FOR OUR SICK TROOPS ENGAGED IN THE WAR.

The “horrible and heart-rending” accounts of the sufferings of our troops in the East, the acknowledged insufficiency of the Military Medical Staff, the dreadful inefficacy of the method of treatment pursued in the hospitals already established, as shown by the long lists of mortality published, and the fact that many of those engaged in the campaign prefer the homœopathic method of treatment,—all these circumstances led a number of the believers in homœopathy to wish that some method could be devised to provide our soldiers and sailors with an opportunity of availing themselves of homœopathic treatment in the East. Lord Robert Grosvenor, who is always warmly interested in everything relating to homœopathy, summoned a meeting of the principal practitioners and influential supporters of homœopathy at the end of February last, for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken in order to bring homœopathy within reach of our countrymen at the seat of war. It was determined to memorialize the Minister of War on the subject, and a committee was appointed to draw up a memorial and carry out the wishes of the meeting, while at the same time a deputation of noblemen and gentlemen was named to present the memorial to Lord Panmure, when it should have received a sufficient number of important signatures.

In a few days the memorial was very extensively signed, and Thursday, the 29th March, was appointed by Lord Panmure for receiving the deputation. At the time of going to press we are not informed of the result of the interview with the Minister of War, but trust to be able to give a full account of the proceedings in our next, should they not have already made their appearance in another form.

From the Same.

HOMŒOPATHIC LIFE ASSURANCE.

Two Life Insurance Companies have recently been started on the principle of offering peculiar advantages to insurers who habitually employ homœopathy for the cure of their maladies. The highly respectable business names connected with both these schemes is a proof of the progress of homœopathy among the public, and a testimony of the most practical kind in favor of a belief in the life-preserving power of homœopathic treatment. Though we might wish to see the influence of these two societies united, we heartily wish success to both, as we believe nothing could more powerfully tend to advance homœopathy among this "nation of shop-keepers" than a demonstration of the pecuniary advantage it offers to those who employ it.

The following curious description of a case of Transposition of the Viscera we quote from the London Lancet of February, 1855. Reported on the authority of Thomas Chaplin, Esq., M. R. C. S.

Sophia H—— died on the 8th July, 1854, aged one year and ten months; the body was examined forty-eight hours after death. On opening the abdomen, the liver was found to be placed on the left side, and from being enormously enlarged, extended downwards as far as the crest of the ilium, whilst the small lobe crossed the abdomen and occupied nearly the whole of the right hypochondriac region. The large end of the stomach was on the right side, the pylorus and duodenum being on the left. The pancreas was placed to the right of the duodenum. The spleen, which was very large, was situated in the right hypochondriac region, and reached as low down as the iliac fossa. The left kidney was lower than the right. The cæcum was in the left iliac region; the sigmoid flexure in the right. On examining the chest, the heart was found with its apex pointing to the right side, and the aorta which proceeded from the right ventricle, arching downwards towards the right side of the spine. The left lung had three lobes, the right only two. The child had been delicate from its birth, and sometime before its death, had fallen into a very cachectic condition. The autopsy showed evidence of recent general peritonitis. Both lungs were partially emphysematous, and there were signs of rather severe bronchitis. The heart was large, and pericardium roughened in several spots, by an old deposit of lymph. December, 1854.

From Ranking's Abstract, July to December, 1854.

AN INSTANCE OF FŒTUS IN FŒTU.

BY DR. C. O. WEBER.

This case is very curious.

Matthias Stramatz was born on the first of October, presenting a tumour the size of a child's head attached to the sacrum. The tumor grew perceptibly, stretching the skin, and it seemed certain that the child would gradually sink. It was brought to the surgical clinique at Bonn, on the 30th November, 1853. The tumor was immovably adherent, very soft, and seemingly for the most part consisting of fat; but two fingers were plainly felt, united to the sacrum, by a broad, thick joint; the tumor was removed, suppuration followed in the wound, but the child eventually recovered, and was sent home at the beginning of 1854. The examination of the tumor showed that the two fingers, which consisted of three complete phalanges, and bore nails, were, by the apparent union of the metacarpal joints, and some rudimentary wrist-joints, connected with the sacrum. This formed the basis of the tumor. A very soft, fatty tissue constituted the greater portion. Near the surface was found a cyst the size of a goose's egg, containing about two ounces of fluid, a yellowish-green, clear matter. The microscopic examination of this fluid, showed blood-globules, epithelial rudiments, and some fat granules. The chemical examination made by Dr. Roedecker exhibited no pyin, fibrine or albumen. It was identified with what Scherer has described under the name paralbumin.

HOMŒOPATHY AND THE CZAR.

A few years since, if there appeared in any of our popular periodicals, a notice of homœopathy, the article was considered as a curiosity, and, if, indeed, it bore tokens of the favorable impressions of the writer towards the great truth, "*similia similibus curantur*," the editor was considered, as not only risking his popularity, but also as endangering the sale of his paper.

Such a state of things, however, was necessarily to be expected. Man is, and ever has been, a gregarious animal; four-fifths of the general community live "as alms-folks," on the opinions of the more learned minority, and it is probable this circumstance accounts in a great measure, for the sway that held the world for three thousand years, in abject submission to the preposterous system of Galen; and explains the unwavering obedience of mankind to the dictates of allopathic authority until the time of Hahnemann.

Therefore, we may aptly remark, concerning Homœopathy, as did the celebrated Essayist, De Quincy, concerning the reception of the theory of Heroditus by the ancients: "We suppose it to be the very next step to a fatal impossibility, that any man should at once rid his mind so profoundly of all natural biases from education as barely to suppose the truth of the law;" and again, "Prejudications having the force of a necessity, have blinded generation after generation of students to the very admission of such a theory."

As it was with the acceptance of the philosophy of Heroditus; as it was with the first advancement of the doctrines of Christianity; as it was, with the first promulgation of the theory of the circulation of the blood; as it was with the first reception of the asserted prophylactic virtues of vaccination, so it was with homœopathy. But like other *truths*, after having battled with established authority, and combated successfully those instruments and arguments opposed to its progress, men of intellect, reflection and research, investigated its truths and became numbered among its adherents, and *then* the people began to inquire concerning the truths of "this new doctrine."

At the present time, even in the more remote portions of our country, in our small towns and villages, homœopathy is not only known, but professed, vindicated and defended by the public press; and editors no longer fearful of consequences, boldly publish articles, that not only favor our cause, but also throw discredit upon allopathy. The recent death of the Emperor of Russia, has given rise, of course, to much comment in the community. Our friends differing in opinion regarding the practice of medicine, would most gladly have it supposed that homœopathy, and not disease, was the cause of the demise of the Czar. Several articles, evidently intended to endeavor to produce such a belief, have made their appearance. It has been reported that the physician has been obliged to "fly the kingdom;" some remark, that as the medical attendant of Nicholas professed homœopathy, (which is not the case,) the disease was necessarily misunderstood, or the real nature of the affection concealed; others remark, "that a timely bleeding" would have prolonged, if not saved his life. We have seen several of such papers, and in one which mentions the secret flight of Dr. Mandt, the last clause reads thus, "the Emperor Alexander *himself* advised him to leave Russia." We should judge from this that the present Czar is exceedingly friendly to homœopathy and to Dr. Mandt, and perhaps, will neither discard the practice or relinquish his friendship for the professor. It appears that some "scientific" allopath in the back parts of our State (Morgantown,) has been freely expressing his opinions concerning the death of Nicholas, and has also been recommending the method of treatment, which, *if* adopted, might have been instrumental in curing the rather notorious Despect.

To convince our friends of the spirit with which, even in our smaller towns, any attack upon our science is vindicated, we subjoin the following article from the "Mountain Messenger and Recorder."

THE DEATH OF THE CZAR AND HOMŒOPATHY.

MR. EDITOR :—The sinking fortunes of allopathy prompts it to catch, for support, at whatever straws may float in its way. This is the interpretation of that "request of a gentleman of this place" to publish in your paper of April 14, the "death of the Emperor Nicholas," under homœopathic treatment; or rather the allopathic version of that event from the pen of Doctor Bond, an inveterate "fogy" in medicine, who is too old to learn a more efficient method of practice. It is said that when Harvey promulged his theory of the circulation of the blood, no physician of the United Kingdom over sixty years of age, embraced the new discovery. That generation had to die off before its universal reception. Men like Dr. Bond are the enemies of homœopathy by a law of their nature, and are hardly to be held responsible for their incurable unbelief. But, at the same time, sensible men, while they know how to bear with the infirmities of old age, know also what estimate to set upon such testimony.

Notwithstanding the multitudes in the world who are now accustomed to have homœopathic treatment whenever medical aid is required, it is so rare a thing for any one to die under that treatment, that when such a remarkable event does occur, (as in the Czar's case,) "Old Physic" needs to make all the capital out of it possible. If the Czar had been treated allopathically,—had been bled and physicked and blistered, and then died, as hundreds of thousands of others have died, it would have been all right—*secundum artem*—according to prescription, and nobody would have been to blame for it. But as he died under homœopathy, homœopathy must pay the forfeit. It is a powerful argument against it, that it failed to cure one great man! Thousands of emperors and kings have died under allopathy! But that is nothing against "Old Physic." "There is something unfair," says a late able writer, "in the manner in which the public criticises cases that do not recover under homœopathic treatment. None of our systems will cure every disorder. Nor is it to be expected that an art which is in its infancy can do more than greatly surpass in safety and virtue the Hippocratic medicine of 2000 years' standing. Yet, whenever a death occurs under homœopathy, the neighborhood argues and acts as though homœopathy had invented death, which was a phenomenon unknown until Hahnemann brought it from the infernal regions. Why, the bills of mortality since Hippocrates, are the bills of allopathy! And in most cases,

let the worst that can occur, it is no worse and no more than happens daily under that practice. But if the patient dies under allopathy he dies by precedent, and there is no responsibility; if homœopathy is at his bedside he departs unsanctioned, and the survivors have to answer for him to public opinion. This must be borne until the battle is further fought, and those who are not prepared to endure it, had better not dabble in homœopathy." The battle has already been so far fought in many places, and there are tens of thousands in the world, and among them a large proportion of the wisest and best, who have taken homœopathy as a man takes a wife, "for better or for worse,"—to live by it or to die by it, being fully convinced by observation, reading and experience, that their chances, in the long run for health and life are far better under homœopathy than under the old system of bleeding, blistering, and purgation. We presume the Czar was one of them, for when his homœopathic physicians told him he must die, he did not dismiss them and call for the allopaths. He must have had very strong and clear convictions of the truth and efficacy of homœopathy, thus to trust in it in view of death itself. Like thousands of others he had doubtless carefully examined the subject; his faith was based upon evidence; his mind was made up, and he stood to it till death. We respect him for it. Even in the *death* of the Czar, homœopathy receives fresh honors.

But it will perhaps be said that it is not so much the death of the Czar for which homœopathy is held responsible, as for his death, when it might have been prevented. That, according to the testimony of Dr. Bond a "free and timely blood-letting" would have saved him. The doctor tells us that he had "a severe catarrh or influenza" which progressed to irreparable congestion of the lungs and he ceased to breathe, and that all that was "nothing extraordinary." In other words, that he died a *natural* death. But would "free and timely blood-letting" have saved him? So confidently affirms Dr. Bond, several thousand miles off, without, we presume, knowing much, if anything, of the particulars of the case. But then he had a "severe catarrh or influenza," and allopathy, which prescribes for diseases by names, can prescribe "a free and timely blood-letting," as an infallible remedy. Is it so? Is a free and timely blood-letting the acknowledged infallible cure for a "severe catarrh or influenza," in old school practice? For, if it is the infallible remedy, we may expect that it will be, at least, generally acknowledged, and that nobody under that treatment has ever died for want of it. If it is not such an acknowledged infallible remedy, then Dr. Bond has no warrant for his assertion. Without troubling the reader with a great number of authorities, we select two of the best and most popular, whose orthodoxy cannot be questioned, one American and the other English,—Wood and Watson.

Wood says, (Practice of Medicine, vol. 1, p. 808, under the head of Influenza,) "In relation to the treatment it is necessary to say but little. The disease must be managed, in the same way, essentially, as common catarrh. There is one prominent difference, however, which requires notice. Almost all writers agree that the influenza does not so well tolerate depletion. Bleeding is not borne well; or if borne, is said to be less effective. In abstracting blood, therefore, it is proper to be cautious, and always carefully to examine the pulse." Had Dr. Bond his finger on the Czar's pulse, to enable him to speak with such confidence? Again, p. 806, Wood says, "The most distinguishing feature of the disease is the debility which attends it. Almost all writers are agreed upon this point. In some of the epidemic attacks, it seems to have been less striking than in others, and in a few instances the pulse is said to have been strong, and to have not only borne, but imperiously demanded depletion. But in much the greater number of instances, it is described as having been feeble, and in some the debility was extraordinary, so that the disease would not at all bear the loss of blood, and *death was, in numerous instances, ascribed to bleeding.*" So much for Dr. Wood versus Dr. Bond. Now for Watson. I copy from his Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Medicine, p. 544. "The treatment of the influenza is pretty well understood. The chief risk of mistake is that of being too busy with the lancet. Certainly, those affected with the disorder do not well bear active depletion. Of course no one would think of blood letting except the symptoms were severe and the distress great; but even in such cases much caution is requisite in adopting that remedy. If you find that the inflammation has extended to the pleura or to the substance of the lungs, it may be necessary to open a vein, or to apply cupping glasses over the chest; but this is a very unpleasant necessity. Such is the result of all I have seen and heard from others of the present epidemic, and such is the result of the recorded experience of nearly all previous epidemics. You will find abundant evidence of this collected into a summary view by Dr. Hancock. In 1510, Dr. Short says bleeding and purging did harm. In 1557, bleeding was said to be so fatal, that in a small town near Madrid, two thousand persons died after it in the month of September. In 1580, Sennertus, after stating that where blood letting was omitted the mortality was not greater than one in a thousand, adds,—"*Experientia enim hoc comprobavit omnes fere mortuos esse quibus vene apæ viebatur,*" (that is, all died who were bled.) Dr. Ash observes, that in 1775, it was never necessary to bleed in Birmingham; and that in a neighboring town three died who were bled, and all recovered who were not bled. A great deal more evidence to the same purpose you may find in the article I have referred to."

So much from the great English allopathic authority, Watson, to bear out the assertion of Dr. Bond, that a "free and timely blood-letting" would have saved the life of the Czar, when he was laboring under a "severe catarrh or influenza." We need not say, that it is conclusive—against him.

But the reader will observe the fact developed by these extracts, namely, the confession that many have died by the treatment and not by the disease—that, according to Wood, "*death was, in numerous instances, ascribed to the bleeding!*" The disease did not kill them, but the Doctors did! Again, that two thousand persons in a small town died in one month, after being bled; and the whole connexion gives us to understand that it was believed to be *in consequence of the bleeding!* A few doctors, with their lancets, in this case, did perhaps more execution than the cannon balls and boom shells and bayonets of the allied armies at the battle of Inkermann! Again, in another case, one in a thousand died, who were not bled. All were doomed to death who had a vein opened. Yet a "free and timely blood-letting" is the "sovereign'st thing on earth" for influenza! So says Dr. Bond, and so says, by inference, the gentleman who lately requested the publication of his opinion in your paper. In view of the facts and authorities quoted, what are such opinions worth? They are worth just this, (and it is much): They may be the means of opening the eyes of the people to the truth that allopathy will be letting its lancet into them, at all risks, if it gets the chance. Thousands may die in consequence, and the facts be recorded in the books for medical eyes; but they bleed on. If a man die occasionally under homœopathy, without bleeding, the most that can be said, as Dr. Bond has said, is that he died *naturally* of the disease, and homœopathy could not hinder it. But, according to their own showing, thousands of their patients die by their violence, not of the disease but of the treatment. Homœopathy *lets them die* occasionally when it cannot help it. Allopathy, by its own confession, *slays them by wholesale*, and records the facts among the chapters of her accumulated wisdom, which are nevertheless lost upon her sons. Blood-letting! blood-letting, still.—Thousands have died by it. But bleed on! It is the only remedy! May it yet prove a remedy for one disease of mortals,—a tame submission to the homicidal doings of "Old Physic."

We candidly avow that our correspondent of the "Mountain Messenger" has rather vanquished his allopathic brother, and moreover has furnished sufficient reliable authority to prevent any inhabitant of Morgantown from being subjected to the lancet merely for an attack of influenza. We think that such articles, particularly when they appear in daily papers, are of much importance in spreading the truth of the law of simile among the multitude.

But the true state of the case is this : Dr. Mandt is not a homœopathic physician, that is, he does not practise according to the law of Hahnemann, or his disciples ; he is an eclectic, and has pretended to discover a system of treatment entirely his own ; for a corroboration of our statement, we refer the reader to the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, No. 51, p. 170. Therefore the Emperor did *not* die from homœopathic treatment ; but moreover, Dr. Mandt was the medical attendant of *the Empress*, “ though rejoicing in the title of physician to the Emperor.” Nicholas would take no medicine of any kind : “ a friend of ours who was very intimate with Dr. Mandt, the late Emperor’s physician, was informed by him that the Czar could never be persuaded to take a particle of medicine, allopathic or homœopathic ; that it was as impossible to induce him to take a globule of the latter, as to swallow a pill or draught of the former. He had as great a horror of the tiny globule as of the ‘ vigorous measures’ of Dr. Granville and the *Medical Times*. ”* Therefore, the Emperor was neither attended by a homœopathic physician, or if it be averred that Dr. Mandt administered homœopathic medicines to his patients, the Czar could not have died from the globules, for the simple reason that he would not take them.

HOMŒOPATHIC STATISTICS.

A Homœopathic physician, who is preparing the materials for a work to be entitled as above, being desirous that his subject should be treated of in as complete a manner as possible, hereby appeals to all those who take an interest in homœopathy, and who wish to see the merits of the system fully recognized and appreciated by the profession and the public, for their active co-operation in procuring materials for this work. He will be therefore most thankful to those who will kindly forward to him well authenticated statistical results of the homœopathic treatment of disease in public institutions or in private practice, not published in this *Journal* or in the “ *British Journal of Homœopathy*, ” and, if possible, at the same time the results of allœopathic treatment of the same disease in the same localities.

The object of the author being merely to discuss the question in such a manner as to elicit THE TRUTH, any statistics adverse to homœopathy will be also thankfully received.

Communications to be addressed to Dr. OZAUNE, Island of Guernsey.

* *British Journal of Homœopathy*, No. 52, p. 349.

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — JUNE, 1855. — No. III.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

TEMPERAMENTS.

THE following article on temperaments is from the pen of George Bancroft, the Historian; a writer whose style, rich in thought, and brilliant in expression, will always repay the careful reader, whose taste for the beautiful it pleases no less than it inspires, invigorates and instructs. Life-like pictures such as these are to medical science as the blossoms from the seed, or the luscious fruit droppings from the tree of life for the healing of the nations. We admire such attempts to popularize science. Mobilization is the watch-word of the present age. He who renders knowledge and science attractive, is spreading wisdom broadcast. He is preparing from the fruits, the productions of former ages, a rich repast for the present and future generations. He is rendering available stores of wealth which had been long hoarded up, and adapting to the taste of the multitude that which had only been appreciated by the educated and refined. He is elevating the masses, changing the vulgar herd to men of more than royal race, and enstamping the lineaments of Divinity upon a common Humanity.

Medical Science is evidently adapted to this mobilization, to be portrayed in attractive forms, and by the beauty of its investing drapery, to attach to itself those who are, or who may become, able to appreciate the true, the useful, and the good.

The teaching of the various departments of medical science is destined to undergo great and important changes. A new set of teachers are yet to arise, whose teachings shall infuse new life into all its departments. Men, who, like George Bancroft,

are able by the beauty of imagery with which they shall invest each subject, to cause to be seen and felt the brilliancy of those corruscating images of light, which have usually been presented only in dry detail. We bespeak for the following article the favorable notice of our readers.

“THE SANGUINEOUS TEMPERAMENT.”

“The temperament which in its external appearance claims the highest degree of physical beauty is the sanguineous. Its forms are moulded by nature to perfect symmetry and invested with a complexion of the choicest lustre. The hands of the artist have embodied its outlines in the majestically graceful Apollo of the Vatican. Its delicate shape is “the dream of love.” A mild and clear eye promptly reveals the emotions of the heart; the veins swell with copious and healthful streams, and the cheek is quick to mantle with the crimson current. The breath of life is inhaled freely; the chest is high and expanded like that of “a young Mohawk warrior;” the pulse is active but gentle; the hair light; the skin soft and moist; the face unclouded; and, in short, the whole organization is characterized by the vigor and facility of its functions.”

“The moral character of those who belong to this temperament is equally pleasing. They are amiable companions, every where welcome, and requiting the kindness shown them by gentleness of temper and elegance of manners. They are distinguished for playfulness of fancy and ready wit. Their minds are rapid in their conceptions, and pass readily from one subject to another, so that they can change at once from gayety to tears, or from gravity to mirth. Of a happy memory, a careless and unsuspecting mien, a contented humor, a frank disposition, they form no schemes of deep hypocrisy or remote ambition. They are naturally affectionate, yet fickle in their friendships; prompt to act, yet uncertain of purpose. They excel in labors which demand a most earnest but short application. They conquer at a blow, or abandon the game. They gain their point by a *coup de main*, never by a tedious siege. They are easily excited, but easily calmed; they take fire at a word, but are as ready to forgive. They dislike profound meditation, but excel in prompt ingenuity; they succeed in light exercises of fancy, in happily contrasting incongruous objects, and inventing singular but

just comparisons. They are given to display, and passionately fond of being admired. Inconstant by nature, they are full of sympathy, and are eminently capable of transferring themselves in imagination into other scenes and condition. Hence they sometimes are successful in the lighter branches of letters; but they are too little persevering to excel. A continuance of intellectual labor is odious to them; and in no case have they been known to unite the deep sentiments of philosophy to eloquent language. They are the gayest members of society, and yet the first to feel for others. With a thousand faults, their kindness of heart makes them always favorites. In their manners they unite a happy audacity with winning good nature; their conversation is gay, varied and sparkling; never profound, but never dull; sometimes trivial, but often brilliant. Love is their ruling passion; but it is a frolic love to which there are as many cynosures as stars. It is Rinaldo in the chains which he will soon break to submit to new ones. Occasionally they join in the contest for glory. In council they never have the ascendant; but of all executive officers they are the best. They often are thrown by some happy chance to be at the head of affairs; but they never retain power very long. They are sometimes even delighted with camps; but the field of arms is for them only an affair for a holiday; they go to battle as merrily as to a dance, and are soon weary of the one and the other. Life is to them a merry tale; if they are ever sad it is but from compassion or the love of change; and they breathe out their sighs chiefly in sonnets. Thus they seem made for sunshine and prosperity. Nature has given them the love of enjoyment, and blessed them with the gift of cheerfulness. In short, this temperament is to the rest what youth is to the other periods of life; what spring is to the succeeding seasons; the time of freshness and flowers, of elastic hope and unsated desires."

"For examples of this temperament go to the abodes of the contented, the houses of the prosperous. Ask for the gayest among the gay in scenes of pleasure; search for those who have stilled the voice of ambition by the gentle influence of contented affection. In the mythology of the ancients, among whom generally character stood forth in bolder relief, numerous illustrations may be found. We may mention Paris, who, as the poet says, went to battle like the war-horse prancing to the river's side, and who valued the safety

of his country less than the gratification of his love ; or Leander, whose passion the waters of the Hellespont could not quench ; or the too fascinating Endymion, who drew Diana herself from her high career. In history, we have the dangerous Alcibiades, who surpassed all other Athenians in talent, the Spartans in self-denial, the Thracians in abandoned luxury ; Mark Antony, who for a time was the first man in Rome, but gave up the world for Cleopatra ; Nero, the capricious tyrant, whose tomb was yet scattered with flowers ; the English Leicester, for whom two queens contended ; the gallant Hotspur, of the British drama ; the French Duke de Richelieu ; the good King Henry ; the bold and amiable Francis ; or to take quite a recent example, the brave and gallant, but passionate and wavering Murat, now, in time of truce, displaying his splendid dresses and his skill in horsemanship before the admiring Cossacks ; and anon in the season of strife charging the enemy's cavalry with fearless impetuosity. But we have the most striking illustration of the sanguineous temperament, when uncontrolled by moral principle, in the life and character of Demetrius, the famed besieger of cities. The son of Antigonus was tall, and of beautiful symmetry. Grace and majesty were united in his countenance, so that he inspired at once both affection and awe. In his hours of leisure he was an agreeable profligate ; in his moments of action no man equalled him in diligence and dispatch. Like Bacchus he was terrible in war, but in peace a voluptuary. At one time he hazards honor and liberty for the indulgence of his love ; and at another his presence of mind and his daring make him victorious in the bloodiest naval battle of which any record exists. Though sometimes capriciously cruel, he was naturally humane. By turns a king and a pensioner, a hero and a profligate, a tyrant and a liberator, he conquered Ptolemy, besieged Thebes, gave freedom to Athens, was acknowledged to be the most active warrior of his age, and yet died in captivity of indolence and gluttony."

"Plutarch's life of Demetrius Poliorcetes, might indeed be called the adventures of a sanguineous man, but of one morally abandoned. Where men of this temperament are distinguished for blamelessness and purity, they comprise within themselves all that is lovely and amiable in human nature. They are the fondest husbands and the kindest fathers. They live in an atmosphere of happiness. The fables of Arcadia seem surpassed by realities. It is especially in

early life that their virtues have the most pleasing fragrance: "severe in youthful beauty," they are like the Israelites who would not eat of the Eastern king's meat, and yet had countenances fairer than all. These are they of whom the poets praise the destiny which takes them early from the world. These are the favorites of heaven who, if they live to grow old, at their death "fill up one monument with goodness itself."

"THE BILIOUS TEMPERAMENT."

"We turn to the consideration of the class of men to whom the destinies of the world are generally committed; who rule in the cabinet and on the exchange; who control public business and guide the deliberations of Senates, and who, whether in exalted or private stations, unite in the highest degree instant sagacity with persevering energy. They possess, like the sanguineous, quickness of perception and rapidity of thought; but they at the same time have the power of confining their attention to a single object. They have good practical judgment; they see things as they are, and are never deceived by contemplating measures in a false light; they have a clear eye to pierce the secrets of the human heart—to read the character and understand the motives of others. They are patient and inflexible in their purposes; and however remote may be the aim of their desires, they labor with unwearied toil even for a distant and apparently uncertain success. They are prone to anger, and yet can moderate or conceal their indignation. Their strongest passion is ambition; all other emotions yield to it; even love vainly struggles against it; and if they sometimes give way to beauty, they in their pleasures resemble the Scythians of old, who at their feasts used to strike the cords of their bows to remind themselves of danger. The men of whom we are speaking are urged by constant restlessness to constant action. A habitual sentiment of disquietude allows them no peace but in the tumult of business; the hours of crowded life are the only ones they value; the narrow road of emulation the only one in which they travel.

"The moral characteristics are observed to be connected with a form more remarkable for firmness than for grace. The complexion is generally not light; and not unfrequently of a sallow hue; the hair is dark; the skin dry; the flesh not abundant, but firm; the muscular force great in proportion to the volume of the muscles;

the eye vivid and sparkling. The appetite is voracious, rather than delicate; the digestion rapid. Of the internal organs the liver is proportionably the largest and most active, and its copious secretions give a name to the class."

"Such is the nature of those who belong to the bilious temperament. They are to be employed wherever hardiness of resolution, prompt decision and permanence of enterprise are required. They unite in themselves in an eminent degree the manly virtues which lead to results in action. At their birth all the gods came to offer gifts; the graces alone remained away. They stand high in the calendar of Courts, and know how to court the favor of citizens of republics; but Cupid, indignant at their independence of him, degrades them in his calendar. They do not reign in the world of fashion, and the novel-writer could make an Oxenstiern or a Sully an imposing picture, but not the hero of a sentimental tale."

"Will you learn from living examples what is the nature of the bilious temperament? Walk to the Exchange and ask who best understands the daring business of insurance? Discover by whom the banks are managed which give the surest and largest dividends! Go to our new settlements in the West and mark the men who are early and late riding through the majestic forests of virgin nature, where the progress is impeded, it is true, by no underwood, but where every hardship must be endured, streams forded, nights be spent under the open sky, hunger be defied, and a thousand dangers be braved by the keen speculator, who will take nothing on trust. Or watch the arena of public strife, and see who it is that most skilfully and yet most secretly touches the springs of national action, and controls the distribution of praise and emoluments in the very court of honor!"

"Or if you will not trust yourself with scrutinizing the motives of the living, consult the Muse of History, and with her trumpet-tongue she will tell you of those who are the elect of her heart, those who fill the universe with their fame, and have swayed their times by their prowess and their mental power; from the mighty conquerors of earliest antiquity, whose names float to us through the wrecks of unknown Empires, to the last wonderful man, who in our own times dealt with States as with playthings, and by the force of his despotic will shook the civilized world to its centre."

"Ancient history furnishes perhaps no more exact illustration of

this temperament, than in the character of Themistocles. In his boyhood he shunned boyish sports, but would compose declamations and harangues. He says of himself that he had learned neither to tune the harp nor handle the lyre, but that he knew how to make a small and inglorious city both powerful and illustrious. He could not sleep for the trophies of Miltiades. When his superior in the command raised a staff to repel disagreeable advice by a blow, he coolly said, "Strike—but hear me," rendering patience sublime by his patriotism. Having been a poor and disinherited child, he made his way to the highest honors in Athens, and for a season controlled the civilized world. "He was the first of men," says Thucydides, "for practical judgment." Of Romans we might name as of the bilious temperament the elder Brutus, the glorious hypocrite, who hid the power of his genius till he could exert it for liberty. The greatest foreigner in the days of the Republic on the Roman soil was Hannibal, and he, not less than Julius Cæsar, was of the bilious class."

"But were we to select an example among those who at any time have been masters of the Seven Hills, we should name the wonderful Montalto, Pope Sextus V. In early life he exerted astonishing industry and talent, made himself the favorite preacher in the cities of Italy, and afterward won the hearts of the Spaniards till he was at last made Cardinal. Then of a sudden his character seemed changed; and for almost twenty years he played the part of a deceiver with unequalled skill. He lived in a retired house, kept few servants, was liberal in his expenses for charities, but parsimonious toward himself; contradicted no one; submitted even to insults with perfect good humor; and in short, acquired the name of being the most meek, the most humble, and the most easily guided of the Cardinals. Of the forty-two Cardinals who entered the conclave, Montalto seemed nearest to another world. A crutch supported the declining strength of his old age; and a distressing cough indicated that life was fast consuming away. Six parties divided the assembly; and fourteen Cardinals deemed themselves worthy of the tiara. On balloting, Albano, the most powerfully supported, had but thirteen votes. Let us take this good-natured, dying old man, thought they; he will be easily managed; and four parties of the six united for Montalto. The ballot was ended: "Gods! I am Pope of Rome," exclaimed the hale old man. Casting from him the cloaks in which he was muffled, he threw his crutch across the

room, and bending back, spit to the ceiling of the high chamber of the Vatican, in which he was to show the vigor of his lungs. Never did a wiser man hold the keys of St. Peter. He punished vice even in the high places with inexorable severity; he established the library of the Vatican; placed the magnificent obelisk in front of St. Peter's; caused the matchless cupola to be built; conducted water to the Quirinal Hill; erected a vast hospital for the poor; made the splendid street, called from his name Felice; reformed the finances of the States of the Church; and while he exercised great influence on the affairs of Christendom, he himself kept at peace. Since his time the Catholic Church has not had at its head a man of superior genius."

"THE MELANCHOLIC TEMPERAMENT."

"Observe the pensive man, who stands musing apart from the rest, and whom we should think bilious, but for the compression of his chest. His countenance is pallid or sallow, and his features are expressive of melancholy. He is lean, yet of great muscular vigor; his eyes are clear and brilliant, yet of a sombre expression. His hair is dark, and does not readily curl. He is rather tall, and not ill-formed, yet slender; his breast is narrow, and confines the play of his lungs; he stoops as he sits or walks. His internal organization is marked by energy and life, but the action of the system meets with obstructions. His nerves are extremely sensitive, yet generous warmth is wanting to molify and expand their extremities. His blood circulates with languor, and if he is long exposed to the cold in a state of inactivity, it is soon chilled. His stomach is apt to become indolent; he is liable to the anguish of difficult digestion. Such are the physical peculiarities of the melancholy temperament."

"The man of this class unites a habitual distrust of himself and weak indecision in common affairs, with obstinate persistence in matters on which he is decided, and undaunted perseverance in pursuing one object. When he has no strong motive to fix him, his wavering exposes him to the reproach of pusillanimity, and he might find it difficult to repel the charge, were it not that it is impossible to make him swerve from a purpose once adopted. Beauty has an inconceivable and mysterious power over him. He deserts the society of the wise and learned, the disputes of politicians and the discussions of men of business, for the unquiet enjoy-

ment he finds in its vicinity. Yet while he yields to the temporary influence and dominion of any one who is lovely, he is slow to form an attachment, and if his affections are once engaged, his love bears the seal of eternity. In his intercourse with men he avoids all society which does not suit his habits of mind; but he is sincere in his friendships, and, we must add, slow to forgive an injury. The recollection of a wrong remains imprinted almost indelibly on his memory. In society his manners are embarrassed, and often awkward; yet he does not fail to excite interest and sentiment akin to compassion. When he converses, his imagination exerts itself powerfully, and he often uses original and singularly expressive forms of language. Indeed, the imagination is at all times the strongest faculty of his mind; it creates a world for him, all unlike the real one. He does not see things as they are, but beholds in them only the reflections of his own representations. His delight is in profound sentiment, and he excels in the delineation of strong passions and intense suffering. Powerful motives are required to bring him to action. If suddenly called upon when he is not moved, he falters, can decide on nothing, and appears to exhibit a complete inefficiency and unsuitableness for business. But if strong excitement accompanies the unexpected summons, he comes with energy and decision to the guidance of affairs, pours forth his ideas in a torrent of extraordinary and irresistible eloquence, and surpasses all expectations. It is a weakness of the melancholic man that he is always contemplating himself; the operations of his own mind, the real, or more probably the imaginary woes of his own experience. The sanguineous man is happy in his fickleness; the bilious enjoys himself in the stir of action; the phlegmatic is content if he is but left alone to repose undisturbed; the melancholic is quite satisfied, only when discoursing or musing on himself and his sorrows. So far he is liable to the charge of vanity but no further. He does not form too high an estimate of himself; self-conceit is the peculiar foible of the sanguineous. Love is the ruling passion of the sanguineous; ambition of the bilious; the melancholy man is haunted by a longing for glory. This gives an impulse to his patriotism; this kindles his imagination and leads him to beautiful designs; this prompts him to enter on the career of letters; this not unfrequently drives him with irresistible power to nightly vigils and immoderate toil, in the hope to enshrine his name among the immortal. He is

timid, and his fastidious taste is never satisfied with what he performs, though of all men he can least brook censure; so that he exhibits the apparent contradiction of relying most obstinately on a judgment which he himself distrusts. This diffidence of himself may at first seem to injure the perfection and utility of his labors. But his doubting makes him anxious to finish his productions in the most careful manner. To what else do we owe the perfect grace and harmony of Virgil—the compact expression and polished elegance of Gray?”

“If the melancholic man errs in his practical estimate of men, he at least, studies the principles according to which they act, and carefully analyzes their motives and passions. He understands the internal operations of their minds, even while he is unsuccessful in his direct attempts at influencing them. He is himself capable of a high and continued enthusiasm. Gifted with affections which may be refined and elevated, he can feel admiration for all that is beautiful and unselfish among men; can pay homage to the fine arts; or be admitted to enjoy the serious pleasures afforded by philosophy and poetry. He has no talent for light humor and pleasantry, but he excels in bitter retorts and severity of satire. He is subject to ecstasies of pleasure no less than of pain; and the former become him less than the latter. He possesses the virtue of patience in the most eminent degree. Nothing can fatigue or subdue him. Disappointments do not weary him, nor can he be baffled by delay.”

“The history of literature and the arts is full of examples of this temperament; on the world also, it has frequently exercised a wide and lasting influence. The most eloquent of modern philosophers, the gifted child of Geneva, the outcast of fortune, offers an illustration. How brilliant is his imagination! What timidity marks his character in smaller affairs! What dauntless courage animated him when he published truths in defiance of the Roman Church and the vengeance of despots! What a power also was exercised over him by beauty! How willingly he offers his *Eloise* in manuscript, on gilt-edged paper, neatly sewed with ribands, to his accomplished patroness! What ignorance of the world do we find in him, and yet what discriminating delineations of the passions and hearts of men! So long as a love of truth, of liberty, of virtue, shall avail, with charity to mitigate the condemnation of vices, which a defect

of education may palliate but not excuse ; so long as splendor of imagination, keen reasoning, eloquent reproofs of fashionable follies and crimes, in a word, the fine thoughts and style of genius, shall be admired, the name and the writings of Rousseau will be remembered, and the analysis of his mind explain the organization which we are describing."

"In English poetry Cowley seems to have been of this temperament. Milton, originally bilious, acquired something of it from age and misfortunes. It was natural to the bard of Mantua ; it threw the thick cloud of self-torturing gloom over the poet of chivalry and the cross, the sweetest minstrel of his country, or rather of all time, the inimitable Tasso."

"These are instances of men devoted to letters. History describes Demosthenes as of a slender form and short breath ; therefore, we infer, of a narrow chest. His physiognomy has a gloomy expression, as we know, not only from the busts of him, but from the insolent jests of Æschines. He is represented as of unyielding fixedness of purpose ; a man whom neither the factions of the people, nor the clamors of the aristocratic party, nor the gold of Macedonia, could move from the career of disinterested patriotism. Arriving at early manhood, he found an object worthy of the employment of his life, and remained true to it in danger, in power, in success, in defeat—at home, on embassies, in exile, and in death. He was an ardent lover of liberty, smitten also with a true passion for glory. Moreover, in spite of his perseverance, he was naturally timid. When he was presented at the Court of Philip, he is said to have been embarrassed, and to have shown no proof of his greatness. When called from the forum to the camp, he was not at once capable of directing the battle. He was accustomed never to address the Athenians except after careful preparation ; yet on great occasions, he was sometimes raised beyond himself, and if excited and compelled to speak, he did it as it were by inspiration and with irresistible force. All these things are traits of the melancholic temperament."

FUNGI.

Fungi.—During a recent tour of examination among the rich woodlands of Potter county, Pennsylvania, it struck our attention that every distinct species of tree has a fungus sui generis. In odour, taste and structure, a section of each variety exhibited a marked difference.

The idea struck us that here is a new field of enquiry for curative agents. Though medicinal fungi are not entirely unknown, there has been no attempt, so far as we know, to institute a general investigation into these diseased products of the vegetable world, such as we have done among their healthy parts.

Yet, when we consider the analogy that exists between animal and vegetable life, and particularly the marked symptoms and the diseases, which diseased vegetable matter produce in the human system, it is unreasonable to suppose that a range of powerful curative agents may be found in this new field, that may greatly advance the success of homœopathy.

ANTHRAX.

Philadelphia, June 4, 1855.

PROVINGS OF ALLIUM SATIVA.

BY J. SILVER, ESQ.

Allium Sativa.—J. S. S. Ætatis 52, sang. ner. temp., fine florid health, blue eyes, dark chestnut hair, sandy beard, skin very fair; slight scrofulous diathesis exhibited in tetter on the fingers from ætatis 16 to 40. Then and thereafter without external show. Very high forehead; never knew headache; nor piles nor toothache. Hair shows scarcely any grey. Warm hands and feet. Small eater; no drinker even of water; uses no tobacco; never went into any excesses; extremely domestic and retired; organ of talk active; and exceedingly quick in mental organs. Has been for some twelve years driven almost crazy by a disturbance of the system impossible to define, except by its affects, viz., nocturnal vigilantia, gloomy, fidgety, fearful of the future (here), despair. About four years ago the disease took shape and settled down in a dull,

stupid sub-pain, at the left side (sigmoid flexure) of the colon. This banished sleep, which could only be had in a sitting posture. Could not lie on the left side, nor on the face, without pain. Only supportable on the back and right side. Without sensible pain in an erect position. The effect has been to completely poison life, and make prayer for death. Bowels always torpid, as a symptom. *Sepia* and *Tellurium* were extensively tried. They always created a troublesome torpor of the rectum. They gave no relief.

Colocynthis always aggravated the pain and gave a motion of the bowels, but no further relief.

Dulcamara—Repeatedly tried and always with certainty of banishing the "Bowel Devil," pro tem., as will be given in detail in this paper.

Phos. ac.—Relieved always the gloomy feeling.

Aurum—Always produced a motion of bowels, and cheerful feelings.

Dulcamara.—Provings by J. S. S.

1st dose.—Sept. 27, 1854. The painful annoyance of Bowel Devil, and the torpor of the bowels, induced me to try *Dulcamara* at 7 A.M. The same evening the nasty symptoms disappeared and sound sleep came. Though bowels not opened.

Sept. 28th. Full natural discharge of large volume—splendid sleep.

Sept. 29th. After midnight, awakened by the old Devil at the sigmoid flexure of the colon. But the force of this attack weaker than usual; felt it all day 30th also; tongue yellow.

2d and 3d dose.—Oct. 1. Took *Dulcamara*, 2d dose at 7 A.M. In the P.M. the seated pain began gradually to spread and grow weaker; repeated the dose at night. Through the night the pain went gradually off, giving easy sleep; urine greatly increased; yellow tongue cleansed and good taste restored.

This medicine has been tried several times since, when the Devil troubled, and always with exactly the same effects.

1st dose.—April 4, 1855. Having an attack of "Bowel Devil." Took at noon, *Allium sativa*, 4 pellets, 3d dilution.

2 A.M., 5th, awakened by great aggravation of the bowel pain.

2d dose.—April 5th, 6 A.M., symptoms of congestion of the brain. Took 2d dose. Soon the congestion increased, and lasted all day. Torpor of the rectum; stool small and hard; urine quite

free. Towards evening brightened up, bowel Devil nearly disappeared, and refreshing sleep came at night.

3d dose.—April 6th, 6 A.M., took 3d dose. Head free; bowels opened four times to-day; stools softer than usual and well colored. Towards evening, feeling as if a looseness were coming on; appetite good; slept soundly (but some priapismus appeared); “Bowel Devil” cleared out in full; appetite excellent.

4th dose.—April 7th, at 6 A.M., took 4th dose. Bowels free all day; several small passages; some foetid flatus; feverish feeling; windlike travellings through the bowels; no sleep all night; urine freer than usual; some heartburn; head clear; but some dryness of the nose, probably a slight cold; appetite good; saliva rather free of flow (connected with the heartburn, I suppose).

5th dose.—April 8th, 6 A.M., took 5th dose. “Bowel Devil” made a call this morning; borborygmus ceased; bowel pain *diffused*, but making a nasty sensation of intense worriment, which, during the night, gradually tapered off, and finally, towards day, subsided entirely. Bowels torpid.

6th dose.—April 9th, 6 A.M., took 6th dose. Bowels torpid all day, (but at evening fairly opened by large and healthy evacuation). Still very restless feeling; cannot read nor even sit still; Bowel Devil all night though diffused; nose getting moist near morning of 10th; appetite, all along, good.

7th dose.—April 10th, 6 A.M., 7th dose. Tongue clean; rather close in the bowels; otherwise no symptoms to-day; slept fair.

8th dose.—April 11th, 8th dose. Travelled to Nazareth and back. No motion of bowels; no noticeable effect; slept pretty well.

Allium cepa.—1st dose.—April 12. Stopped the *allium sativa*. Took *allium cepa* at 6 A.M. At 9 A.M. had a glorious evacuation. Bowel Devil cleared out, and good feelings prevailed. Drank lemonade in the evening; splendid sleep.

2d dose.—April 13th. Took *allium cepa*, 1 and 6 A.M. Spirits quiet; “Bowel Devil” looked in again, quietly and slightly; bowels free; constriction of sphincter ani; borborygmus at night, but much less than described April 7th; slept reasonably well.

Here I ceased taking medicine altogether.

April 14th. Took no medicine; bowels very frequently opened; slight colicky pains; constriction of sphincter ani; foetid flatus;

purging; torpor rectum; urine very free. At night "Bowel Devil" paid a visit, but did not press his attention. Had some good sleep.

April 15th. Purging ceased; nose moist and clear; tongue some furred with white, but taste sweet; appetite good, and spirits quiet; urine free; some congestion of brain, at 11 A. M.; slept 11 A. M. to 1 P. M. "Bowel Devil" quite impudent at night.

April 16th. Hard fecal movement at noon, of fair quantity, which brightened me up greatly. During the last two weeks I could not sit up after 8 P. M. Somnolence drove me to bed. After this hard fecal discharge, this somnolence left me; no torpor rectum and no stricture ani; slept to-night soundly. The Bowel Devil looked about, but laid low. (Note.—Before retiring took lemonade.)

April 17th and 18th, in New York. Bowel Devil didn't go along; felt fine; good appetite, and sleep, and spirits. Lemonade at evening.

April 19th. No movement of bowels. Lemonade at evening.

Aurum.—1st dose.—April 20th. No movement of bowels. Took aurum at 3 P. M. Devil made trouble.

2d dose.—April 21st. Aurum at 7 A. M.; free passage at 11 A. M. and 8 P. M. Though stools are free enough, the mass comes in detached balls or segments. Bowel Devil on hand though timid, and disturbed sleep.

April 22. No medicine. Torpor rectum; passage at 9 A. M., soft enough, but slowly ejected, color olive; appetite not active for the last two days and to-day. Eat freely of stewed peaches and prunes, and bran bread, and had bowels freely opened this evening. Devil quiet; slight uneasiness in the bladder at night; slept reasonably well.

April 23d. A very decided improvement is going on. Spirits fine; sleep refreshing, and appetite good, which continued to the 27th.

2d Proving. *Allium sativa*.—1st dose.—April 27th, at 1 P. M., Mr. Bowel Devil made a sudden call, spreading himself out (not being seated as formerly). Nasty attack; great torpor and somnolence; slept dull and heavy all the P. M.; at 10 P. M., before retiring, took *allium sativa*; slept heavily all night.

2d dose.—April 28th. Bowel pain eased off; nose moist, and feelings brighter. Took 2d dose, *allium sativa*, this morning; some

tendency to congestion of brain in the evening; fine motion of bowels in the A. M.; slept soundly.

April 29th. No medicine. Hard to rouse up. Bowel Devil behaves himself; congestion of brain powerful; drove me to bed at 10 A. M.; slept heavily till 1 P. M.; congestion disappeared on waking, and I felt lively all day afterwards; appetite excellent; no motion of the bowels all day. I feel Bowel Devil is present, and he is at the old spot; though diffused and evidently weakened. Bowels moved at 9 P. M.; slept pretty well, but Bowel Devil present all night.

April 30th. No medicine. Feel pretty fresh, tongue clean, head clear.

[NOTE.—The nervous system, since I began Dulcamara, has been greatly strengthened, as indicated clearly by my writing.]

Honey.—May 1st and 2d. Being in the woods of Potter county, I found honey at a hotel, which tempted, and I freely ate of it on bread, &c.

May 3d. At Corning, N. Y., 10 P. M. Bowels (after being constive for two days) opened freely. Took the New York cars at 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ P. M. Was obliged to sit all night in the water closet, from diarrhoea. The dirty-watery stuff passed from me by the gallon, preceded always by colicky pains.

May 4th. At 10 A. M., May 4, arrived in Jersey City, and put to bed at once. Called in a Homœopathic M. D. The purging continued all day, and didn't cease entirely till May 7th, A. M.

Took Colocynthis and Arsenicum, during the day and night, May 4th.

May 5th. Arrived in Philadelphia quite prostrate, and didn't recover appetite nor strength for two weeks. Took no medicine. But Bowel Devil was completely knocked out; and has not appeared up to June 3d, 1855. Though there is a feeling at his old stand of some apparently after-sensibility about the left turn of the colon; and depression of spirits (my old trouble) hangs on moodily.

May 29th. Consulted Dr. Ch. J. Hempel, N. Y., under a conviction that the germ of the disease was alive still; especially as there began to be hints of Bowel Devil reconnoitering. Dr. H. prescribed (oddly enough, after the allopathic provings of Mel.) *Apis melif.*, (and a very little *Aconite*). Have taken it now three times daily, seven days, after torpor rectum from the first doses.

Bowels keep freely open. Congestion of the brain quite apparent as a symptom. Bowel Devil scampered off, and elastic spirits came the second day, and abide now with me.

N. B.—Seventh day, slight appearance of tetter on the hands; appetite not active; sleep good. Not entirely free from the mental torpor, so long my terrible nightmare by day, but greatly improved. June 12th. Have taken apis melif. daily, to this date! After four days of constipated bowels, they have been very freely opened, three or four times a day, for the past three days.

Dr. N., for a year past, under an impression that my disease was tetter on the mucous membrane of the colon, (which I first suggested to him,) administered *Sepia*, and when it failed, *Platina*, without any results, except a distressing torpor rectum, sometimes requiring instrumental aid to draw out the accumulated fæces. Tetter on the hands also resulted, and congestion of the brain.

MEM.—There has always accompanied this Bowel Devil, a slight incontinence of urine, requiring twice nightly the use of the pôt de chambre; but the urine free, clear and right. Evidently the left ureters, near the kidney, were the seat of this trouble, because I felt it and still do.

Dr. H. pronounces my disease simply congestion of the capillaries in that region. The Bowel Devil being, in reality, a mere sympathetic effect.

Merc. vivus and Opium, suggest themselves to Dr. H.'s mind, on the first impression.

June 13, 1855. Dr. H. prescribed Aconite twice daily, and Merc. viv. once. Began this day.

June 18th. Under this treatment the following marked effects appear, viz:

1st. Bowels daily and freely opened (quite a new thing in me). This I attribute to the Merc. viv.

2nd. Feverish flush and thirst, with an uneasiness at the late seat of the bowel devil at night, and a little sub-irritation in the meatus urinarius on two occasions, like a weak stranguary. This I attribute to the Aconite. Head clear.

3d. To the united effects of both medicines upon the general system, I attribute another marked effect, viz: An elasticity of spirits and an activity of mind that I have not known since this horrible complaint first troubled me, years ago. The light joyous-

ness of youth, with all its brilliant hope, has come back to a stricken heart. Where all was gloom and dark despair, now the sun of perfect happiness sheds its cheering light. I feel that I am cured; and that, if the cure be permanent, I shall be thankful for the horrors of the past ten years, because they have furnished a contrast by which my future earthly happiness will be more than doubled, beyond what any possible state of health could bestow, without the previous contrasting experience of so deep a misery and so dark despair. *Doctore, Deoque gratias.*

Philadelphia, June 18, 1855.

NOTES FROM PRACTICE.

BY D. W. REIL, OF HALLE.

[Translated from the Zeitschrift of Homœopathic Clinic—Vol. 4, No. 8; by J. F. SHEEK, M. D.]

EPILEPSY AND LAMENESS OF THE LEFT UPPER EXTREMITY.—*Considerable improvement from the use of Atropin.*

L. H., a delicate girl, aged ten years, of a family of the lower class, who had been suffering from epilepsy since her sixth year, the attacks occurring, in the commencement, at intervals of from two to four weeks; later they occurred more frequently; and after one year they occurred once, and sometimes twice or thrice, a day. She was attacked suddenly, without any premonitory signs. She sank to the ground, her face became very blue, she foamed at the mouth, and passed alternately into tonic and clonic convulsions, which lasted ten minutes. She then recovered quite rapidly, without knowing that she had had an attack. Her mother had noticed, during the past two years, that the left side was less affected than before; but that, during the convulsive period, she had less use of the left upper and lower extremities. On the 3d of July, 1853, on making an examination, I found that the child was very backward in its physical development, but its mental or spiritual development was much greater, still not without the uneasy and unsteady appearance of the eye. The left upper extremity was partially paralyzed and sensibly shrunk, the gait somewhat unsteady, and there was dragging of the left foot. The head and sensorium were free. Digestive

organs in good order; no disposition to vomiting. But there was scarcely any time for momentary reflection after the first indications of an attack.

I had no idea of an improvement, much less of a cure, but still I ordered medicine, for the sake of experiment. And although *Belladonna* was the remedy the most plainly indicated, yet as *Alben* had recommended *Atropin*, I administered it in the form of pills, each 1-100 of a grain, one pill three times a day. After this I did not see my patient for three weeks.

To my great astonishment, on the 28th of July, she came to see me; but greater still was my astonishment, when the mother informed me that, from the first day of taking the remedy, the attacks, which before had come on several times a day, had entirely ceased. As to the lameness, no improvement had manifested itself, but she was much better in her general health. I then gave her three powders of *Saccharum lactis*. After six days the attacks made their appearance again, but in a milder form, occurring every three or four days. I then gave her *Atropin*, as in the commencement. The results were the same as at first; and as long as the *Atropin* was continued, there was entire cessation of the attacks; but they made their appearance again soon after discontinuing the medicine.

Notwithstanding the prompt relief, which the remedy afforded, —so neglectful were her people, although she had treatment and medicine gratuitously, that they sometimes for months brought me no report from the patient, and then not unless the attacks occurred again; although they never occurred with the same intensity, and their occurrence made the mother call upon me for help again.

The case still remains the same, after a year and three-quarters. The attacks do not return as long as the child takes the *Atropin*. After discontinuing the remedy, they occur once in four, eight or fourteen days, but are never so violent. The general health is good, yet the child remains weak, and there is no improvement in the lame side, neither does it get any worse.

Primary drug symptoms—I noticed none, except slight dilatation of the pupils.

EPILEPSY; by DR. W. REIL, of Halle. *Atropin without improvement—improvement through Artemisia.*

A. G., a robust lad, aged fourteen years, of healthy appearance, with some degree of imbecility, had suffered two years with epileptic attacks. The lad was submitted throughout to no restraint; the attacks came on suddenly, commencing while consciousness still remained, with turning towards the right; the patient then fell unconsciously, and remained a quarter of an hour in clonic convulsions. After their discontinuance consciousness returned, and also partial health. The attacks return regularly every eight days, or during the course of the last six months there has not been a longer interval between them. In remembrance of the above related case, which was relieved so promptly by Atropin, I gave this boy, on the 11th of December, 1854, the same, three times a day—1·50 of a grain. No primary Belladonna symptoms were noticed after it, except slight dullness of the eyes, and dilatation of the pupils, hardly perceptible. In this case, however, the attacks continued to occur three times in twenty days, without the least change.

On the 3d of January, 1855, there was ordered *Pulvis radix Artemisia*, twice a day for eight days, and then, for eight days, three times a day—as much as would lie on the point of a knife.

After which the attacks did not return for six weeks, or until the 15th of February, when there was a slight one, with some giddiness. The same remedy has been continued until to-day, March 8th. On the 3d of March there was a slight attack. I will, in my next, give further information of this case.

Inflammation of the Urinary Organs, with Affection of the Brain, and Helleborus Niger. By DR. G. OEHME, in Dresden.

Madam K. R., aged twenty-four years, of robust constitution and healthy appearance, had last fall, soon after her marriage, this identical disease, the course of which I will relate as follows, and which, under the use of *Aconite* 1, *Belladonna* 1, *Hyoscyamus* 1, and *Cantharides* 2 (decimal dilution), had a relapse, which continued somewhat over three weeks. Since this time her general health has been very good, except that she frequently suffered a burning pain on passing urine, which is mostly increased after taking cold eating herring, or other saline substances, or such articles as contain an ætherial oil, or after the use of beer. Her periods have

been rather small for the past two years, but regular, continuing a couple of days. For four or five days previous to the period she has pain in the small of the back, and ill humor. No Fluor Albus or aversion to coition.

On the 29th of March of the present year, at noon, I was called to visit Madam K., and found her in the following situation:—She was in bed, and complained of headache, pain in the region of the loins and abdomen, and burning in the urethra during urination. Upon making pressure in the region of the kidneys she experienced violent pain (especially on the right side); the same pain upon pressure on the ureters, bladder or ovaries; the remaining portion of the abdomen was less painful. Face flushed, eyes dull and somewhat fixed, violent fever, skin moist, no appetite, tongue clear, stool normal; urine reddish brown, turbid, containing no gravel or albumen. Frequent twitching of single muscles, which occur to the patient, although not very often; they also take place when the patient is in health, especially during sleep. For days before, she felt herself well, and the preceding night had passed without any disturbance, but soon after getting up the disease commenced. The period had occurred two weeks previous, and passed its regular course. No excessive sexual desire had attended this or preceded the former attack. Ordered: *Aconite* 1, and *Belladonna* 1, two drops every three hours in alternation.

The 30th of March. The night was passed tolerably well, and on my morning visit (at ten o'clock), I found the patient at least no worse than she had been the previous day, when I first saw her. In the sequel that followed the morning remission, she seemed somewhat better. Ordered a continuance of the same medicine. In the afternoon, after four o'clock, I was called to her in haste; and found her in the following condition:—The patient was nearly insensible, previous to which she had complained of violent headache; her face was flushed; eyes fixed, half open, and turned upward; there was also cramp of single parts. On making pressure upon the kidneys and region of the bladder, symptoms of violent pain were noticed; very frequent pulse; skin hot, but moist; occasional murmuring of single words; the urine as previous, without albumen. At dinner the patient had eaten some water soup, and found herself tolerably well until about three o'clock, at which time the aggrava-

tion of the disease commenced. Ordered *Helleborus niger* 1, and *Aconite* 1; two drops to be taken in alternation every two hours.

The 31st of March. The patient had been very restless until midnight; had also frequently, although for short periods, been delirious. Towards morning she had a couple of hours of sound sleep. Upon my morning visit (nine o'clock). she felt somewhat better. The headache had almost entirely disappeared; the eyes pretty normal; the pain in the region of the kidneys, ureters, the bladder and ovaries much diminished.

The cramps that had attacked single parts had abated, and there was only twitching of single muscles, and these occurred but seldom. The fever had also abated considerably; the burning on passing urine had not abated. Urine reddish brown, a little turbid. Ordered the remedies to be continued at three hours interval in alternation.

Upon my afternoon visit (at five o'clock), the patient complained of nothing except the burning during the passage of urine, which had not mitigated at all. The kidneys and other parts were still painful upon pressure and motion. The eyes normal; the fever moderate. Her appetite had recovered, and she had especial desire for coffee, which with her was the surest sign, that her health would soon be restored.

The 1st of April—9 o'clock, A. M. The night had passed well; her breakfast was relished. She felt much better, and expressed a desire to get up, which I promised she should do the next day. The region of the kidneys and bladder were less painful than they were yesterday. Fever very trifling. She had a desire for meat, which I allowed her to partake of. The burning in the urethra upon passing urine remained unabated, and as *Cantharides* had proved to be but of little service in a previous attack, I ordered *Cannabis* 1st, every three hours two drops.

The 2d and 3d of April. The improvement is making rapid progress. The appetite is continually getting better. The patient was yesterday and to-day up for some time, which agreed very well with her. The burning upon passing urine remains still undiminished. Ordered *Arsenic*, 3d dil., three drops every three hours.

The 4th of April. The burning on passing urine much improved, also the general health, so that the patient is able to attend to some

of her household duties. The region of the kidneys and bladder, upon pressure, are entirely painless.

The 5th of April. The burning on passing urine has entirely ceased.

Diagnosis for Tape-worm by the use of Cuprum Oxydatum.

The diagnosis for tape-worm, as is known, can only be made certain by a discharge of portions of the worm. This can be accomplished by giving the person supposed to be affected, for ten days, three doses per day of *Cuprum Oxydatum*, first decimal trituration, each dose to contain ten grains, without abstinence or deviation from the ordinary mode of living. Generally, on the third or fourth day, there are portions of the worm discharged with the fæces. If there has been no portion of the worm discharged in the course of ten days, you can safely rely upon it that there is no tape-worm present, and the treatment for the cure of tape-worm unnecessary. This remedy causes, even in children, no disease, except that two or three doses cause a slight disposition to vomit, which soon passes off. *Ascarides* are also discharged by the use of this remedy. The complete eradication of the tape-worm, through the use of *Cuprum*, I have not been entirely successful in.

THOUGHTS ON ONE OF THE PECULIARITIES OF THE MECHANICAL PHENOMENA OF RESPIRATION.

BY SILAS SWIFT BROOKS, M. D.

IN studying the peculiarities of the various functions of the human organism, the philosopher finds much to entertain, and the medical practitioner more that is useful. Both may feel their hearts gladdened in the contemplation of an evident design on the part of an All-wise Maker, in causing the many peculiarities connected with the functions, to work together for the benefit of His created beings.

They may behold, with delight, wonder and thankfulness, the many provisions for health and longevity.

Sometimes the intention of these provisions is obvious, at other times it is obscure. There are also many peculiarities, whose objects

have not claimed attention ; and as the writer does not recollect having seen or heard any reference to a particular one which forcibly strikes his mind, he would respectfully ask for it a passing notice ; hoping to be pardoned by those who may have previously revolved the same point in their own minds.

He alludes to that peculiarity in the mechanical phenomena of respiration, by which the expiration is performed more forcibly than the inspiration.

It has been said, that “if the whole time occupied by the respiratory act,—that is, from the beginning of one inspiration to the beginning of the next,—be represented by 10, the time occupied by the inspiratory movement has been estimated approximatively at 5 ; that of the expiratory at 4 ; and the pause between the expiratory and succeeding inspiratory movement at 1.”—*Dunghlison*.

Now, as the inspiratory is performed in a less period of time than the expiratory movement, it follows that air is expelled from the lungs more forcibly than it is inhaled.

The *intention* of this forcible expulsion of the air from the lungs, and the succeeding pause before the next inspiration, will appear evident upon slight reflection ; but the practical use of such an intention is too often slighted.

To the mind of the writer, this peculiarity appears to be for the purpose of driving the carbonic acid and other effete matter contained in the air of expiration, so far from the nostrils as to prevent its being again carried into the lungs by the next inspiration. Then the pause of 1, after the exhalation, favors a continuation of the current of rejected matter from the nostrils, so that, by the time it has elapsed, and the next inspiration begins, the face is surrounded by air, which is comparatively pure, and the great object of inhalation, that of introducing fresh air into the lungs, is fully accomplished.

What a beautiful and beneficent provision for supplying the blood with pure and fresh portions of air at every inhalation !

The noxious air being rapidly expelled ; and after a short period, which enables the vivifying air to rally around the nostril, the inspiratory movement slowly commences.

This one provision shows man that he should not confine himself in small or unventilated rooms, whereby he would be compelled to

draw into his lungs, the same poisonous air they have so recently expelled.

Yet it is lamentable and revolting, to see so many people who possess much intelligence and wisdom in other matters, habitually sleeping with their heads beneath the bed clothes, or shutting their dormitories so closely, that the air becomes destructively offensive long before the dawn of morning.

The human creature, being never adapted for such a hybernating sort of life, may exist under it for a time, as its organization may bear much destructive exposure for a period, but the ordinary duration of life must inevitably be diminished. Some may say, that this or that friend whom they knew did so, and lived to a good old age; very well, but they cannot tell how much longer they would have lived, or how much greater would have been their enjoyment of life, had they been more observant of the conditions required for the possession of vigorous health.

Such conduct being a violation of those conditions, the penalty must certainly be paid at some time or other, either by the individual so violating, or by his offspring; and most commonly it is paid by both.

History informs us, that families, or races of people, who habitually violate the laws of hygiene for a long period of time, gradually become weaker and weaker, both in numbers and strength, until they finally became extinct. Here again, is to be seen the admirable management of a great Hand.

God so ordains, that his unprofitable and unfruitful creatures shall be removed from before his face, and their places supplied by those who will live more conformably to his will; in order that he may delight in his own perfect handiwork.

He wills that man, as well as every other animal, which he has placed upon the earth to serve him, shall be *perfect* in both his physical and mental conditions, and that all who are not so, like the fruitless fig tree, shall be rooted up and cast away.

REMARKS ON A RESOLUTION

Passed by The American "Medical Association at their late Convention in Philadelphia.

BY JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M. D.

HE to whom the language of the classic poet,

"Ingredeaturque solo, et caput inter nubila condit"

applies, will not quote his grandmother. He will rather draw you aside to the shelter of red brick walls, than beguile you into the sombre shade afforded by the wide-spread branches of the genealogical tree under which the high bred and noble born so often take their luxurious repose. The system, like the man whose prestige is of doubtful distinction, would feign plume itself on its present greatness. Mormonism would gladly forget the money digger. Islamism, the camel driver. But honest independence and sturdy integrity, combined for greatness of purpose, need never crimson the cheek of the children who can claim such qualities in their parents, whether their birth place was a hut or a palace. In this respect we fear no contrast with our rivals. They may sneer, we can laugh. The world sees what we are, whence we have sprung—our line of descent is distinct, definite, unbroken; nothing mythical or apocryphal has rendered doubtful any part or period of our historical and medical existence, from Hahnemann to this day! Why then should we shrink from a retrospective glance at our origin and progress? We have nothing to conceal, and therefore have nothing to fear. If abuses have crept under our shadow, and flourished in spite of our vigilance, it is only the "common lot," the common law of all things that live and prosper. The spiritual law which came down from heaven to heal the moral maladies of man is no exception; the fungus springs from the roots of the oak; parasites cling to the lion; there are spots on the face of the sun!

We claim but a single Thinker, an individual Philosopher, as the founder of the single feature which distinguishes our school. Christianity had but a single promulgator. Among the scholars of our master have been and are many dunces, many idlers, many truants, many who have made a living and are making a living on

the mere credit of his name. To state that among the disciples of the author of Christianity the same things exist, would be only to repeat what is already too well known. While our master was living, and our school yet in its infancy, there were but few men who had the learning and moral courage to appreciate and investigate the new discovery; who were able and willing to test by faithful and untiring experiments the claims which were put forth for it in Germany, France and England. And when these found that their trials of the new application of remedies corroborated those of Hahnemann, it became even then a matter of no small risk to proclaim these results to their professional brethren and the public. It was, therefore, absolutely necessary that such evidence should be laid before them as should leave the medical bigot without excuse, and at the same time convince the disinterested civilian by affording him an opportunity to test the matter for himself. To accomplish these objects, it was deemed expedient to expound, in the plainest and clearest language, the elementary principles of the healing art, to describe the characteristics of common diseases by their most striking and prominent symptoms, so as to make it an easy matter to compare such symptoms with those of the remedy most clearly indicated, according to the newly discovered law of cure. The science of medicine, now, for the first time, shook off the cobwebs of intricate technicalities which had been accumulating round it, in every nook and corner of classic Europe and conservative England, since Apollo bequeathed the gift to man. The "DOMESTIC MANUAL" sprung into being, closely followed by its inseparable companion, the little "*Medicine Case*," with its Lilliputian vials of Hahnemannian polychrests. And so our golden age was first born! Medicine was now "made easy." Every one was his own doctor! An old lady, a ploughman, and a school girl, could, by the aid of these new inventions, diagnosticate an ordinary disease, and find a remedy "*according to the symptoms*." Converts soon became numerous to an astonishing degree, and neither books, cases, nor amateur practitioners could supply half the demand for the "new article." But demand and supply have always, and in all trades and professions, kept pace with each other, and the purchaser finds an exchange for his ready cash in the shape of an artfully-prepared spurious article, when the real one is not within easy access. "*Port wine of the best quality*" is never scarce in our

markets, though the grape crops of Oporto *sometimes* fail, and we never want "*Sparkling Champagne*" while there are apple orchards and cider presses in the land. And all presume to be good judges of these much abused and ill-used articles, though not one person in ten thousand ever tasted the 'genuine cup. And so it is in all things. Men can most readily be duped in matters of which they are profoundly ignorant, while they imagine themselves fully instructed; in no subject is this more apparent than in medicine.—A very ignorant dressmaker told us lately, with remarkable coolness and assurance, that she was "extensively acquainted with medicine, knew every kind of herb and its healing virtues"—and in the next breath assured us that a medical adviser, whom she had lately consulted, had informed her that "*the three main leaders of her body were out of order!*" and this bluestocking in medical literature believed him too! In fact she thought she had got a "new idea." So that it is in ours as in another profession—"like priest like people." But our illustration has merged into a digression. Our keen and far-seeing countrymen, and many equally ready to use an advantage, who dwell among us, perceived in this state of things too good a chance to be neglected—it was a tide, and now was the flood, why should they not take it? Why should the large number of idle and incompetent persons who had already tried to succeed, but failed, at every conceivable thing of which they had a *little* knowledge, allow a good opportunity to slip of "making a fortune" at something of which they were wholly ignorant? So, the general cry for "Homœopathic doctors" once raised, volunteers flocked to the standard from every quarter of the globe, with as much zeal and alacrity as to the ranks of Peter the Hermit, on that memorable occasion, when the sword of the destroyer found a plausible pretext under the ensign of the Prince of Peace;—and the honesty and the general adaptation of these respective hordes for the ranks of Mars, and the shrine of Apollo, have more than one point of striking similarity—hunger, depravity, and ignorance, were common in both armies—we speak of the majority, of course. Fired with the prospect of pillage in the distance, the country tailor flung his goose into the well, the weaver, with more than his wonted energy, sent his shuttle flying through the atmosphere, the hedge carpenter threw his edgeless tools to the utmost distance, the barber upset his shaving-pan, the cobbler bounded from his bench, and the

shopman cleared his counter at a single leap, turned up his "Byron," and affected to grin more gravely. Thus every trade and calling poured its surplus of indifferent hands into the medical profession, with astonishing rapidity, till the whole of the Western world became better supplied with doctors than London, Edinburgh, or Philadelphia! Why should it not have been thus? The laws of this country suffer any man to call himself "Doctor," though he may not with like impunity style himself "Lord or Duke," a "*book and a case*" made a doctor, and his outlay needs be no more than six or seven dollars; his stock was always at command;—a large supply of vulgar self-conceit and brazenfaced impudence, which served, like the dust which the fox had collected on his tail, to blind the eyes of those who had an interest in detecting his cupidity. When the occasion for action arrived, a luckily chosen polychrest, administered at the right time, under favorable auspices, secured for each of these pretenders a reputation equal to that of Benjamin Bolus—"whose fame full four miles round the country ran"—but fixed a stigma, a blot, an opprobrium, on our medical practice in the eyes of the large numbers who look no deeper than surface of things, who are ready to confound the principles with the character and practice of those who attach themselves to any system, and served interested and cunning opponents, who were conductors in other lines, for a text to which they could point with plausible facility, and by which they could stifle inquiry on presenting these heads of Medusa. But were these vermin, who did not know whether aconite belonged to the vegetable or the mineral kingdom, the only representatives of Homœopathy, or should they be any more identified with us than the "light fingered gentry," who mix themselves up in every large gathering, can be called reputable members of society? While Homœopathy was thus insulted and perverted, there were scholars, philosophers, men of the brightest genius, in Germany, France, England, and even in America, adorning her ranks, and arraying themselves under her standard. Their works in the various languages of these countries, as well as in the dead languages of the ancient world, their position in the medical schools to which they had formerly belonged, till Hahnemann displayed his new light, prove that our science had little need of, and less to fear from, the wretched gangs of ragamuffin vagrants we have attempted to describe. But after sixty years of successful experiments, with enlarged numbers of the wise, the learned and the noble

attaching themselves to us daily, with schools, hospitals and colleges, at home and abroad, with our books, our statistics and our daily practice, large and respectable, wherever we are fairly represented, it would seem strange if we were suing for shelter to the "Medical Convention!" And still stranger that this body of gentlemen, whom we sincerely respect for all we hold in common, for we only split upon the one point—the *Practice of Medicine*—should affect to treat us now in this mock heroic style; since they must know that in proportion to our numbers, our position is quite as respectable as theirs, that wherever we appear we secure the confidence of the most intelligent and independent portion of the community; and that if we progress during the next sixty years as we have done for the last—and why should we not?—they will be but too glad to change places with us. It will be as difficult for them then to find any one so far behind the age, and so forgetful of his own health and that of his family, to employ one of their number, as it would be for the wornout stage-coach of former days to get passengers on the old turnpike; parallel to which the railroad track has been laid and along which the steam-engine whistles in mockery as it flies past that lumbering, antiquated, crawling representative of the poor, slow and ill-adapted things that were in the olden times!

Away then with this childish folly, which tempts them, from time to time, to "*give a cut to Homœopathy*," and which only leads some among them into the ridiculous position in which the author of the drivelling nonsense, which has called forth these remarks, has put himself, and those who cried "bravo" to his braying! They mistake their men. They have no longer the unlettered gentry we have referred to above to deal with. If they will say anything, let it be something worthy of at least a meeting of colored laborers. They grapple now with a giant; and if they *will* engage in the conflict, we promise them that they shall find in *young Æsculapius* pluck, determination, and science enough to exchange blow for blow, and cut for cut, with the best and the bravest among them. We have now disposed of the famous Atlee "resolution," which will be read more extensively and laughed at more heartily than the author and convention ever contemplated. And as a preparation for the next meeting, we respectfully recommend to the careful study of the "leading men," who may be ambitious of *new resolutions*, some approved manual on Self-knowledge, Humility, Good Taste and an *Elementary English Grammar*.

THE VALUE OF CLINICAL EXPERIENCE AND OF CLINICAL REPORTS TO
HOMŒOPATHY AND ITS PRACTITIONERS.

Read before the American Institute of Homœopathy, at its Annual Meeting in Buffalo, N. Y., June 6th, 1855.

BY J. P. DAKE, M. D.

Experience is the knowledge gained by actual trial either by or in oneself. This knowledge is of the most intimate, and therefore enduring, kind. What we learn from the experience of others may be correct, and for the most part sufficiently reliable; but it does not become so incorporated with our very being as that gained immediately through our own senses.

The traveller may tell us of the peculiar beauties of a strange land. We doubt not his story, yet have no adequate conception of the reality, till our own eyes have surveyed its mountains and its plains, its rivers and its bays, as they lie spread out under the canopy of its own heavens.

In practical matters experience is valuable, in so far as it teaches us what results to anticipate from certain causes, and what causes to employ to obtain certain desired results.

As a guide therefore, either as to what we ought to expect or to do, our experience in a given sphere depends for its value upon three conditions:—

1st. Our preparedness for correct observation in that sphere.

2d. The degree of attention we have bestowed. And

3d. The frequency of its repetition.

In whatever department of life we may act, if we are deficient in perceptive powers, and therefore unable to distinguish and to note clearly what transpires within or around us, our experience, even after all the attention we can bestow, is of little value. Again, with ever so good abilities, we can boast of no really valuable experience where we have bestowed only a slight degree of attention.

We may witness an event, or obtain a result, yet unless we have a clear perception of the circumstances or dependencies therewith connected, our knowledge will not enable us to anticipate that event or obtain that result again.

A frequent repetition, or long continued practice, may in a

measure atone for the absence of good abilities, but can never supply their place; nor can it dispense with the exercise of attention to what we observe.

Any one, who has eyes to see and ears to hear, may be cognizant of facts, yet totally unable so to connect them in their various relations, as to receive therefrom a single guiding hint, as to what he is to expect or to do.

The true experimenter or observer should be a man of clear perception and close attention, who gathers facts as the comparative anatomist gathers bones from the ancient beds of the earth,—connecting one with another till suddenly an organized form leaps up in his vision—a principle, a truth, stands forth, the sum of all experience, and to him an unfailing guide.

Clinical Experience is the knowledge gained at the bed side, in the practice of medicine.

In the earliest ages, when human maladies were comparatively few and simple, this kind of knowledge, telling merely the fact that such an article cured or was supposed to cure a certain disease, was quite sufficient as a guide in the treatment of all cases presenting a similar appearance; or at least it was the only guide then known to man. But as diseases multiplied and became variable in different individuals, this was insufficient: especially was it so in the management of new diseases.

To overcome these difficulties, efforts were made so to understand the human system and its diseases, and so to learn the peculiar nature and power of different medicines, as to establish *principles* or rules by which to prescribe in the absence of experience; and guided by which, the physician could be successful in practice, without having served an apprenticeship for half a century. As a result of such efforts theories were formed respecting the nature of certain diseases and the action of certain remedies, upon which, instead of past experience in individual cases, the treatment of various maladies was conducted.

But all such theories, being conclusions from insufficient or uncertain data, have signally failed when brought to the test of *clinical experience*. One by one they have been abandoned, and the few now surviving are daily losing their supporters.

The vast stores, however, gathered up for ages in the temples of medicine, were not to be thus useless to the art of healing through

all time. They were destined, and did finally lead the mind of a Hahnemann to the discovery of a *general principle* or *law* in medicine. That law—the very embodiment and essence of the world's experience,—expressed in the terms “*similia similibus curantur*,” has produced a system of medical treatment at once new and successful, which we call HOMŒOPATHY.

In regard then to clinical experience we say—without any wish to profane what is holy—it was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Homœopathy; but after that Homœopathy is come, we are no longer under experience. As the old dispensation kept down foolish idolatries and finally ushered in the new; and as its records stand the strongest proof of the latter's authenticity and value—so experience has overturned false theories in medicine, ushered in a true “Science and Art of Healing,” and continually offers her testimony in its favor.

This new method differs from all others in this—that it follows neither the “*post hoc ergo propter hoc*” rule—prescribing a medicine merely because it cured, or was supposed to cure, a similar case; nor yet any of the thousand and one theories respecting diseases and medicines,—prescribing an agent because known to act as an emetic, sudorific, or diuretic, and because the case is imagined to need the results of such an action. It has one therapeutic rule, applicable to all diseases in all countries and at all times.

It attempts not to unravel all the mysteries of disease; nor to account for the peculiarities of medicines, but simply says to the practitioner, *study the case before you, so as to possess its image clearly and distinctly defined; then study your remedies till you have one whose effects in the healthy human organism, resembles most nearly the image of the disease—THAT REMEDY give and it will cure.* It matters not what the nature or violence of the disease may be—whether it be Asiatic Cholera or a neuralgic pain; nor does it matter where the case may occur—whether amid the snows of Siberia or the burning sands of Arabia; nor does it matter essentially whether the physician has ever witnessed or heard of a similar case; if he has its *image* once fully before him, and selects the remedy pointed out by the law *similia*, he has the means best calculated to cure.

Inasmuch then, as experience is not our *therapeutic guide*, we will

endeavor to see what office it does perform, and thus more correctly to estimate its value to us, as practitioners of Homœopathy.

We observe then,

1st. That it establishes our confidence in the therapeutic law, *Similia*. Although fully convinced of the correctness of that law, we rest upon it with yet greater satisfaction, when we have witnessed its confirmation in the cure of various diseases.

No one doubts the universality of the law of Gravitation, yet how is our conception of its reality and greatness enhanced, when by a knowledge of its operation in the heavens, we have succeeded in predicting an eclipse of the sun or moon, long before its occurrence.

2d. It confirms the provings of drugs which we have made upon the healthy. A medicine, although proved and re-proved according to the healthy vital test, exhibits to us its value with redoubled force when we witness it under the homœopathic law, removing from the invalid the very sufferings and symptoms we have known it to produce in the healthy.

3d. It makes us more familiar with our *Materia Medica*. It is very difficult to retain in mind the many symptoms belonging to each medicine: especially when studied without reference to any particular case of disease. Let the mind be aroused by the necessities of practice and be seeking after a remedy, with a view of immediately saving life, and it will seize upon the symptoms with such avidity as to fasten them in memory forever.

4th. It enables us more readily to choose the proper attenuation of the medicine to be employed. Since we have no fixed principles to determine our choice, each practitioner must satisfy himself, either by his own experience or that of others, as to the form and preparation of his doses in each case. For our own part, we began with the attenuations recommended by Hahnemann, having more confidence in his experience than in that of any other man. Thus far in our practice we have had little occasion to vary from his mode. With him we prefer giving less doses and requiring our patients to diet, so as not to interfere therewith, than to give more of the crude drug and allow them to eat and to drink according to the morbid appetites of our degenerate age.

5th. It familiarizes us with symptoms and morbid appearances, so as to enable us to give a clearer diagnosis and prognosis in the case. And in fine it imparts that ease and promptness of action, in the

general as well as special management of cases, so essential to the skill and usefulness of the physician.

The benefits thus enumerated, as accruing to the homœopathic practitioner from experience, will prove themselves more or less valuable, according to the three conditions referred to in our introduction.

If he is deficient in perceptive faculties, or uneducated in the preparatory branches of medicine, he may be ever so assiduous and earnest, and continue his practice ever so long, his experience will be vague, without order, and therefore of little value. So likewise will be that of him who neglects to bestow care and close attention upon cases under treatment. An ignorant man, never accustomed to close application of mind, or one without arrangement or deliberation, may practice for a long life-time, and yet be little the wiser than when he started. On the other hand he may fall into a pernicious routine—prescribing according to some fancy, respecting the medicine or the disease, instead of the homœopathic law: or what is very little better, following alone the indications laid down in Repertories or works on Practice.

Hahnemann, in his “Chronic Diseases,” speaks thus of those, who rely upon the experience or the general indications, offered by others:—“A physician who contents himself with the general indications furnished by the Repertories, and who by means of these general indications dispatches one patient after another, deserves not the name of a true homœopathist. He is a mere quack, changing his remedies every moment, until the poor patient loses his temper and is obliged to leave this homicidal dabbler. It is by such levity as this, that true homœopathy is injured.

“This ignominious propensity for laziness, in the most important of all professions, determines these pseudo-homœopathists to choose their remedies *ab user in morbis*, by the directions which are found recorded at the head of each medicine. This proceeding is entirely wrong and smells strongly of Allopathy.”

But the most valuable experience is that of the physician, who with good original faculties, is well educated in the various branches of medical learning, is a man of order, application, and of strict conscientiousness. Ten years of his experience will be worth more than fifty of those spent in practice, after the stupid, hap-hazard, or headlong manner of those before mentioned. He studies every case

and refers often to his *Materia Medica* to compare symptoms; whereas they, content with having once or twice read over the pathogenesis of drugs, go on prescribing as though the whole business had been learned *once for all*.

In conclusion then we say that Clinical Experience in Homœopathic practice, compared with it in the old or Allopathic, is not so essential to its success; being not its *therapeutic guide* but only its *witness* and *aid*: and that its value in the case of the individual practitioner, is more in proportion to his *qualifications* and *industry* than to the *term* of his practice.

CLINICAL REPORTS.

In regard to the value of clinical reports to the practitioner of Homœopathy, we observe, that they are important to him, as embodying the experience of others. If their experience is valuable to themselves, it is of value to him, when correctly reported.

But there are many who, in practice, learn what is important to their success, and are yet unable, or at least fail, so to communicate their knowledge as to make it available to others.

For instance,—a physician treats a case for several weeks or months, without keeping a written account of the symptoms or of the remedies employed. Being successful, he reports the case in one of the Journals, naming the disease and giving what he regards the leading symptoms, together with a list of the medicines used. Now his experience may be worth something to *himself*, but comparatively nothing to those reading his report.

Having neglected to describe the original symptoms clearly and fully, and to name the remedies in the exact order in which they were given—how long each was continued and how often repeated, together with the changes effected by them respectively,—he does not enable those, for whose benefit his case is published, to know when they have a similar case, or one in which the same remedies should be employed.

That clinical reports be of real value and service to the homœopathic profession, it is necessary:

1st. That the experience of the physician reporting be of the valuable kind.

2d. That the symptoms and circumstances of the case be carefully noted at the time of treatment.

3d. That they should be given in their order with precision and clearness.

The testimony afforded by reports thus made, is of great weight, and might almost rank with that of one's own experience.

But unfortunately those best qualified for the undertaking too seldom report their cases. It is said of Hahnemann, that he suffered only *three* out of all the cases treated by him, to be published. He was so imbued with the spirit of similia, and so afraid that his disciples might come to follow the uncertain light of experience instead of its clear pointings, that he refrained entirely from putting forth the results of his valuable practice.

How often do we wish he had not been thus afraid: for surely, whatever is valuable, or reliable, or encouraging, in the experience of the homœopathist, we would have found most richly set forth in his. The three cases which he did publish, and which we now have, at the close of his "Lesser Writings," furnish a model for such undertakings.

It is not our wish, in what we now write, to oppose the publication of cases in the least. Through the monthly and quarterly channels of our literature there should flow a continuous stream of evidence from the sick-room, be it in the private dwelling or in the hospital. What we wish is simply to remind those embracing our practice, not to rely too much upon the experience of practitioners, and those reporting cases, to do it with so much care that the effort will be beneficial to themselves and of value to others.

Above all we encourage reliance upon the law Similia, and upon the Materia Medica as formed by the healthy vital test.

The watchword of the Homœopathist should be—*Study always, Guess never.*

TWELFTH SESSION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMŒOPATHY.

BUFFALO, N. Y., JUNE 6TH AND 7TH. 1855.

THE Institute was called to order by the General Secretary, S. S. GUY, M. D., of Brooklyn.

The roll was called and the names and residences of members corrected.

After a short recess, the following Officers were elected:

President.—C. H. SKIFF, M. D., of New Haven, Ct.

General Secretary.—J. P. DAKE, M. D., of Pittsburg, Pa.

Provisional Secretary.—A. H. BEERS, M. D., of Buffalo, N. Y.

Treasurer.—S. S. GUY, M. D., of Brooklyn, L. I.

Censors.—Lyman Clary, M. D., of Syracuse, N. Y.,
 Samuel Gregg, M. D., of Boston, Mass.,
 N. H. Warner, M. D., of Buffalo, N. Y.,
 Horatio Robinson, M. D., of Auburn, N. Y.,
 Lewis Dodge, M. D., of Cleveland, O.

The Chairman appointed the following Committee to audit the Treasurer's account:

F. Humphreys, M. D., of Auburn, N. Y.,
 F. R. McManus, M. D., of Baltimore, Md.,
 C. M. Dake, M. D., of Genessee, N. Y.,
 Geo. F. Foote, M. D., of Buffalo, N. Y.,
 Durfee Chase, M. D., of Palmyra, N. Y.

The Treasurer's report was read, and on motion, referred to the above committee.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

At 3 o'clock, P. M., the President in the chair, so much of the minutes of the last meeting, as referred to unfinished business, was read.

Samuel Gregg, M. D., committee on "The Nature, Pathology and Homœopathic treatment of Diseases of the Urinary Organs," offered an excuse for a report.

Excuse accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

J. P. Dake, M. D., committee on "The Value of Clinical Expe-

rience and of Clinical Reports to Homœopathy and its Practitioners," read a lengthy report.

Report accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

F. Humpheys, M. D., Chairman of the Central Bureau, reported.

Report accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

F. Humphreys, M. D., Chairman of the committee on Treasurer's accounts, reported.

Report accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

S. B. Barlow, M. D., committee on "Cholera," being absent, made no report.

The committee on "Blisters" and on the "Translation of the Materia Medica Pura," making no reports, were discharged.

J. M. Ward, M. D., committee on "Mechanical Supports," being absent, made no report.

C. D. Williams, M. D., committee on "Small Pox," being absent, made no report.

[This report having been forwarded to the Secretary after the meeting, will be found in the Appendix.]

A. E. Small, M. D., committee on "Diseases of the Respiratory Organs," being absent made no report.

D. Cowley, M. D., Secretary of the "American Provers' Union," furnished the Institute with a report of the doings of that body during the past year.

Reported accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

Lyman Clary, M. D., Chairman of the Board of Censors, reported the names of the following Physicians, as worthy candidates for membership in the Institute:

Lorenzo M. Kenyon, M. D., Westfield, N. Y.

I. W. Conran, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y.

B. Finke, M. D., Brooklyn, L. I.

Joel Bryant, M. D., Brooklyn, L. I.

Hiram C. Driggs, M. D., Detroit, Mich.

Rollin R. Gregg, M. D., Canandaigua, N. Y.

A. B. McChesney, M. D., Quincy, Ill.

I. J. Meachem, M. D., Nunda, N. Y.

C. A. Dake, M. D., Warsaw, "

A. R. Morgan, M. D., Syracuse, "

D. A. Baldwin, M. D., Rochester, N. Y.

Geo. W. Lewis, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y.

A. W. Gray, M. D., Jamestown, “

Louis de V. Wilder, M. D., Geneva, “

The report was accepted, and the Physicians named duly elected.

On motion of Geo. F. Foote, M. D., and seconded by F. Humphreys, M. D., the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, by the chair, to investigate and report, concerning the rumors afloat, charging Dr. Frederick Humphreys with irregularities in the practice of Homœopathic Medicine.

Committee appointed.—Drs. Foote, McManus, and Dake, of Genessee.

Adjourned to 7½ o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, 7½ o'clock.

The attendance to hear the address of Dr. Pulte being small, owing to some mistake in the public notices, the reading of the address was postponed to Thursday evening, and the members of the Institute, with their ladies, upon an invitation from Dr. N. H. Warner, repaired to his house, if not to enjoy a “feast of reason,” at least “a flow of soul.”

THURSDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The President in the chair, a report by B. F. Bowers, M. D., in reference to the Orphans' Asylum in New York City, was read and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

A communication from “Wm. Springer, M. D., Corresponding Secretary of the Provincial Homœopathic Medical Society of Canada,” was read and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

A communication from Wm. H. Ash, of New York, was read and ordered on file.

B. F. Joslin, M. D., not being present, the Secretary read his very able “Address to the Homœopathic Physicians of the United States.” It was accepted and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

On motion of S. S. Guy, M. D., the Secretary was instructed to print in pamphlet form 2000 copies of Dr. Joslin's Address, for distribution among Homœopathic Physicians in this country and abroad.

Samuel Gregg, M. D., read a report from the "Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society."

Report accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

A report from the "Hahnemann Society of Cincinnati," was read and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The bills presented by the Treasurer were accepted and ordered to be paid.

F. R. McManus, M. D., of the committee on the case of Dr. Humphreys, read a very full and able report,

Report accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The following preamble and resolutions recommended by the the above committee, was adopted, after a long discussion by Dr. Humphreys, on the one side, and Drs. Gregg, Clary, Guy, McManus, Foote, Dodge, McChesney, and Dake, on the other:—

In view of the facts set forth by our committee and from our total unwillingness to have any part in, or to give any countenance to, the undertaking of Dr. Frederick Humphreys, in the manufacture and sale of his "New Era or Specific Homœopathic Remedies," *Resolved*, That we now expel him from our membership.

In the discussion of this resolution, Dr. Humphreys asked the privilege of withdrawing from the Institute, to save farther discussion or action. To grant such a request, under such circumstances, being contrary to the usages of all similar societies, the Institute waited only for the *defence* of Dr. Humphreys.

In his defence the Doctor claimed—1st. That the Institute had no Article or By-law authorizing the *expulsion* of a member. 2nd. That he had not departed from the *object* of the Institute:—"The improvement of the Science of Medicine." 3d. That on the other hand he had made *discoveries*—had found a new and better method of preparing and dispensing remedies for domestic and general use.

On the other hand, it was contended by Dr. Gregg, that every society had the established right to expel a member, when found to act in a manner detrimental to her interests; and that no Medical Society, as far as he was acquainted, had ever permitted a member to retain his standing and at the same time be engaged in the manufacture and sale of *nostrums* or private remedies. It was contended by Dr. Guy, that granting Dr. Humphreys to have made important discoveries, it was his duty, as a member of the Institute,

to communicate his views to the fraternity, and thus engage *all* in the work of improvement, instead of beginning immediately to prepare, advertise and *sell* the fruits of his discoveries as all *quacks* do their *nostrums*.

It was contended by Dr. J. P. Dake, that the course pursued by Dr. Humphreys, as set forth in the Committees' report, was not simply a violation of honor between himself and the members of the Institute, but also a violation of the *Homœopathic Law*, upon which the Science of Medicine, as adopted and cultivated by the Institute, is founded. That while acknowledging the validity of that law in words, he was rendering it void and of no value, by his method of practice. 1st. In combining in one pill or prescription several medicines, the joint and compound action of which in the healthy human organism, he does *not know*. 2nd. In affording as a means of indication, by which to choose the right remedy, only the *name* instead of the symptoms of a diseased condition.

It was contended by Dr. McManus, that while the undertaking of Dr. Humphreys might be a fine pecuniary speculation, it could never promote, but rather retard "the improvement of the Science of Medicine," the object for which the Institute was founded.

On motion of Dr. Dodge, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Institute cannot view the advertising of remedies as *nostrums*, or the combining of several medicines in one prescription, in any other light than as irregular practice and subversive of the best interests of Homœopathy, and that we will not tolerate, in our membership, one guilty of such practice.

J. P. Dake, M. D., offered the following as a substitute for Art. IX. in the By-Laws:

There shall be a committee of three on Clinical Experience appointed annually, whose duty it shall be, to receive and report at each meeting, accounts of cases treated and cured Homœopathically. Adopted.

The Chair appointed as the above committee:

Samuel Gregg, M. D., of Boston, Mass.

Samuel S. Guy, M. D., of Brooklyn, L. I.

J. P. Dake, M. D., of Pittsburg, Pa.

F. R. McManus, M. D., offered the following :

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Institute be requested to furnish at the next meeting, a list of the names of delinquent members and the sum in which each stands indebted to the Institute.—
Adopted.

Lyman Clary, M. D., chairman of the “Committee on Scientific Subjects,” reported as follows:—

J. M. Ward, M. D., on “The Value and Uses of Mechanical Supports, &c., in Homœopathic Practice.”

N. H. Warner, M. D., on “Cholera.”

Richard Gardiner, M. D., on “Small Pox.”

J. T. Talbot, M. D., on “Diseases of the Respiratory Organs.”

H. Robinson, M. D., on “Herpes, &c.”

L. Dodge, M. D., and Wm. A. Gardiner, M. D., on “Medical Education.”

The Chair appointed, to deliver the Annual Address in 1856—

H. D. Paine, M. D.

D. M. Dake, M. D., as his alternate.

The General Secretary was authorized to publish the proceedings of the Institute.

The thanks of the Institute were voted to C. H. Skiff, M. D., for the able manner in which he had presided during the session.

The thanks of the Institute were voted to S. S. Guy, M. D., for his efficient services in the publication of the minutes of the last meeting.

The thanks of the Institute were voted to Dr. Warner and lady for their noble acts of hospitality.

The thanks of the Institute were voted to Mr. Haskins, of the “Daily Democracy,” for his reports of proceedings, &c.

Committee of arrangement for the next meeting:—Drs. Piper and Green, of Washington City, and Dr. McManus, of Baltimore.

Adjourned to meet in Washington City, on the first Wednesday of June, 1856, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

J. P. DAKE, M. D., *General Secretary*.

THURSDAY EVENING, 7½ o'clock.

According to previous postponement the Address of Dr. Pulte was read by Dr. Foote, and well received by the audience.

A vote of thanks to Dr. Pulte for his very interesting Address, and a vote to print a thousand copies in pamphlet form, were unanimously adopted.

J. P. DAKE, M. D., *General Secretary*.

THE NEW JERSEY STATE HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

THE New Jersey State Homœopathic Medical Society held its first Annual Session in the Assembly room of the State House, at Trenton, on the evening of the 13th of February last.

The meeting was called to order by the President, J. M. WARD, M. D., and R. M. Wilkinson, M. D., was elected Secretary *pro tem*.

The names of the Homœopathic Physicians present and desirous of assisting in the permanent organization of the Society, were then enrolled by the Secretary, after which an address was delivered by the President, subject "*The Rise and Progress of Homœopathy*."

The report of the committee, consisting of J. C. Boardman, M. D., J. B. Scott, M. D., and — Green, M. D., appointed at a previous preliminary meeting, held at Newark, June 4th, 1854, to draft "a Constitution and By-Laws," for the government of this society, was, on motion, received, and being read, by further motion, said Constitution and By-Laws were approved in sections and adopted as a whole; also a *Fee Bill* as presented by J. D. Moore, M. D., and P. E. Vastine, M. D., was received and on motion adopted.

On motion, that the Society do now go into the election of officers for the ensuing year; the following persons were elected to fill the various stations:

President.—THOMAS LAFON, M. D.

1st Vice President.—WM. A. DURRIE, M. D.

2nd Vice President.—J. R. ANDREWS, M. D.

3d Vice President.—J. C. BOARDMAN, M. D.

Recording Secretary.—J. B. PETHERBRIDGE, M. D.

Provisional Secretary.—J. J. YOULIN, M. D.

Corresponding Secretary.—J. B. SCOTT, M. D.

Treasurer.—P. E. VASTINE, M. D.

Board of Censors on election of New Members.—J. D. Annin, M. D.; J. D. Moore, M. D.; R. M. Wilkinson, M. D.; J. S. Bassett, M. D.; R. Titsworth, M. D.

Bureau upon Materia Medica.—Jos. Moore, M. D.; J. D. Annin, M. D.; Chas. Rau, M. D.; E. H. Smith, M. D.; P. E. Vastine, M. D.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of the society be presented to Prof. J. M. Ward, for the able and interesting address just delivered, and that a copy of the same be solicited for publication. Drs. Moore, Fish, and Bassett were appointed a committee to wait on the retiring President, bearing the thanks and request of the society.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a special committee of three be appointed to draw up, and lay before the two houses of the State Legislature in session, a *remonstrance* in the name of the Society, signed by the President and Secretary, against the passage of the medical bill now before them, said bill repealing all acts relating to the regulation of the practice of Physic and Surgery, as were passed sessions 1851 and 1854. J. B. Petherbridge, M. D., J. C. Boardman, M. D., and P. E. Vastine, M. D., were appointed said committee.

On motion, *Resolved*, That it is recommended that local Homœopathic Societies be formed auxiliary to the State Society.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to prepare a Seal and Certificate of Membership, for the use of the society, and report at the next annual meeting. J. J. Youlin, M. D., J. M. Ward, M. D., and Wm. A. Durrie, M. D., were appointed said committee.

Prof. Ward announced to the society the proposed celebration by the friends of Homœopathy, of the first centennial anniversary of the birth of Hahnemann, in Philadelphia, on the 10th of April ensuing, and cordially, in the name of the fraternity in Philadelphia, invited the members of the society to attend the same; invitation accepted *mem con*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of the society be presented, by the Secretary in writing, to the House of Assembly for the use of the Hall.

On motion, *Resolved*, That 500 copies of these proceedings, and the Constitution and By-Laws, and 500 copies of the Annual Ad-

dress be printed, for the use of the society and general circulation. J. C. Boardman, M. D., P. E. Vastine, M. D., and Charles Rau, M. D., were appointed a committee to attend to said publications.

On motion, society adjourned to meet in Trenton, on the first Tuesday of February, 1856, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

J. B. PETHERBRIDE, M. D.,

Recording Secretary.

MEMBERS:

J. R. Andrews, M. D., Camden,
J. D. Annin, M. D., Newark,
J. S. Bassett, M. D., Patterson,
J. C. Boardman, M. D., Trenton,
Wm. A. Durrie, M. D., Jersey City,
C. F. Fish, M. D., Newark,
—— Green, M. D., Elizabethtown,
Thomas Lafon, M. D., Newark,
J. D. Moore, M. D., Burlington,
Jos. Moore, M. D., Bridgeton,
J. B. Petherbridge, M. D., Hoboken,
Chas. G. Rau, M. D., Trenton,
J. B. Scott, M. D., New Brunswick,
L. W. Sheppard, M. D., Bloomfield,
E. H. Smith, M. D., Burlington,
J. B. Stretch, M. D., Salem,
R. Titsworth, M. D., Plainfield,
J. M. Ward, M. D., Newark,
P. E. Vastine, M. D., Trenton,
R. M. Wilkinson, M. D., Bordentown,
J. J. Youlin, M. D., Jersey City.

VARIOLA.

BY C. E. TOOTHAKER, M. D.

MR. EDITOR:—Dr. Thomas C. Williams, of Kensington, has reported to me for publication in your excellent Journal, and sixteen cases of Small Pox, which have occurred in his practice, and all recovered under one general plan of treatment, the details of which will be learned from the following article :

Dr. Williams is doing a service to the profession of Medicine, by giving these details of cases of interest, which may afford a guide for practice to many younger physicians, and induce a confident reliance on the true Homœopathic specific, which is thus seen to cope successfully with the most formidable diseases, and speedily to change the most dangerous symptoms and complications to a favorable crisis.

Some of these cases were exceedingly dangerous when the physician was called, having been neglected 4 or 5 days after the symptoms commenced, the patients not appreciating the danger nor the nature of the disease, till the disease had become established, or inveterate.

In all cases the administration of the remedies was followed by immediate improvement, and this improvement continued till recovery, which, in the most obstinate cases required only nine or ten days; in milder cases five or six days.

Case 1st. A young man, aged about 20 years, bilious temperament, usually enjoying good health, by trade a ship carpenter, attacked suddenly in the ship yard with dizziness, but would not give up, till at length, when he could endure it no longer, he started for home, about 150 yards distance. On the way he fainted and was about an hour getting home.

On the succeeding evening, Dr. W. was called, word being brought that a man was in fits or convulsions; found his extremities cold, eyes set, mouth open, head thrown back, and the patient in a state of semi-unconsciousness. Prescription, Bell. 3d, one drop in water, every half an hour a spoonful.

In the morning found the symptoms alleviated, patient complained of nothing, said nothing ailed him, indifferent, listless, throat sore, could not swallow liquids; they would fly back whenever he made the attempt.

Discovered an eruption under the skin this morning, giving evidence of the true nature of the disease, minute red spots or points like pin heads, and at this time learned that he had been exposed to the contagion of small pox, thirteen or fourteen days before. Prescribed Causticum 3d, Centesimal Dilution, and Mercurius Corrosivus Sublinatus, 3d Trituration, in water, in alternation, every two hours.

Visited my patient again the same evening, found him very comfortable, complaining little only of soreness of the throat, and puffiness of the face, especially around the eyes; continued the medicines as given in the morning.

On the next day, the puffiness of the face had continually increased through the night. The eyes became entirely closed, and the face excessively swollen. No other aggravation of the symptoms, except that he complained more of his throat, especially of an accumulation of mucus in the throat. In the evening he threw off a large quantity of mucus, hawking and spitting constantly for some time, after which all the soreness and other complaints in the throat were much alleviated, and gave little farther trouble. On this day the vesicular character of the eruption became perfectly established.

On the third day the swelling in the face continued, the vesicles began to fill, and on the cheeks and face, run together, becoming confluent.

On the fourth day, the vessicles were perfectly full, soreness of the throat entirely gone, patient perfectly easy, complained of nothing. Up to this time the eyes had remained closed, the face having been so swollen as entirely to prevent sight.

Fifth day—the vesicles began to dry up, the swelling of the face so far subsided that the eyes became open, and the sight was restored. The patient came to his right mind, having, as he now affirms, up to this time, had no knowledge of his condition, nor has he now any recollection of any of the circumstances attending his sickness; he knew not that a physician was attending him, nor anything that had transpired for the last five days, though he had generally appeared rational, and given sensible answers to the questions which were asked him.

Sixth day—appetite returned, and patient wished to sit up, vesicles drying up rapidly, and every appearance favorable.

Seventh, eighth and ninth days—the scales were coming off continually, with nothing more especially worthy of note, than that on the ninth day the scabs from the face came off in one continuous crust, and that the patient was up and about the house, and on the tenth day was discharged.

Treated exclusively with *Belladonna*, *Mercurius Corrosivus* and *Causticum* in the 3d Centesimal Trituration or Dilution. Doses were given in alternation every hour the first four days, afterwards every two hours in water, occasionally a few dry powders of the same remedy. *Belladonna* was only used as an intercurrent remedy for the head symptoms or the nervous conditions, and was not continued.

Case 2d. A child, 8 months old, very healthy and fleshy, taken with feverish symptoms; on the second day spasms, clonic and tonic, continuing fifteen or twenty minutes at a time, then remissions, of half an hour to an hour, continuing through the first day. Prescribed *Aconite* 3d and *Belladonna* 3d, in water every half hour.

On the next day, which was the second day of the treatment, the fever came on very severe. The child having been very quiet through the night, was seized with a severe spasm which lasted near an hour, after which it lay quiet, and in a half stupid state, till afternoon, when it had a slight spasm; after this it was comparatively quiet through the night and the next day, with only slight and occasional nervous twitchings and startings, with little fever, but with continued stupor and febrile condition.

On the third day these symptoms began to subside, and an eruption, small blotches of a reddish hue, appeared under the skin, which were soon followed by slight tubercular elevations, or pimples, the size of pins' heads, giving evidence of the small pox exanthem. All the other symptoms improved, and the spasms entirely gone.—Prescribed *Causticum* 3d, *Mercurius Corrosivus* 3d, in water every hour.

On the fourth day, child easy, no stupor, nursed well, vesicles began to fill, child completely covered, vesicles distinct, large, and pretty well filled. Medicine continued.

On the fifth day, vesicles perfectly filled, and all the symptoms very favorable.

On the sixth day, all the symptoms of inflammation of the skin had subsided, the pustules began to dry, the patient appeared to be

convalescent, and was not seen again till the ninth day, when it was discharged, being perfectly recovered in nine days.

Five cases since in one family have been treated with the same remedies in the 3d dilution; none of them had been vaccinated, all recovered, none overrun nine days, and some were only visited 2 or 3 times during the course of the disease.

Case 3d. Mr. —, aged 23 years, fair complexion, sandy hair, active temperament. Taken at first with pain all over, nausea, fever, &c., continuing 2 or 3 days; did not know what was the matter; did not imagine he had the small pox. Dr. W. was called just as the eruption began to make its appearance. Patient complained greatly of his head, had been suffering nausea, pains and partial derangement for some days. Gave Belladonna 30th, 3 or 4 doses, which appeared to alleviate the pains in the head and the nervous symptoms, as promptly as had before been done by the 3d.

Afterwards treated the case with Mercurious Corrosivus 30, and Causticum 30 exclusively, giving no other medicine. This patient recovered rapidly, presenting a train of symptoms very nearly analogous to case 1st, which was treated with the same remedies in the 3d dilution. On the ninth day, his strength had returned and he began to feel like going to work, all the symptoms of disease having passed off.

Dr. W. also reports having sixteen cases of Varioloid, all of which he treated with the 30th dilution of the same remedies; none overrun 6 days, generally 4 or 5 days; all recovered.

If any inference be drawn from the results of the treatment of the above cases, it would be that the 30th dilution was, at least, as efficient, perhaps more efficient, in the treatment of small pox, than the 3d dilution. But so small a number of cases will not warrant any general conclusions of this sort. Let the Physicians of Philadelphia be induced to report all the cases of small pox that come under treatment, and by collecting and comparing the results, we would be able to form some correct idea of the best plans of treatment to be pursued in future.

The plan of treatment pursued by Dr. W. as detailed above, is substantially the treatment of M. Teste, as described in his *Materia Medica*, page 336.

We know of no Clinical Reports of an equal number of cases treated on any other system and with equal success. Will not some

of the older members of the profession be induced to give, through your journal, the results of their experience in the treatment of this most formidable disease? Let us compare notes more frequently, and learn, if possible, where we can find the best results. The above treatment is no doubt strictly Homœopathic. Small Pox being an exanthematous disease, always marked by certain peculiar characteristics, may be more susceptible than some other diseases of a treatment with specific remedies. If Causticum and Mercurius are more specific than any other remedies, the sooner the fact is universally understood the better. In the worst cases under the treatment of Dr. Williams, the patients appear to have been convalescent on the seventh day, (or rather on the sixth,) although the Doctor reports them only as recovered on the tenth. We should like the opportunity of comparing these results with the results of Allopathic practice in the same neighborhood. We have heard of a large number of deaths from small pox in that portion of our city. We have heard of but one under Homœopathic practice, and in that case the patient was literally roasted alive by a careless nurse.

The drugging system must answer for a large portion of the deaths which occur from small pox, if Homœopathy can always show such splendid results as those exhibited by Dr. Williams. Will not some of the other Homœopaths, Dr. Stiles, Dr. Cox, Dr. Williamson, and others, prepare for the Journal some account of their experience in the treatment of small pox?

MESSRS. EDITORS :—

A recent number of the Journal of Homœopathy, contains a biographical notice of Dr. J. T. Flagg, of Boston, who was among the first to embrace the practice of homœopathy in the United States. This notice was written by one who was well acquainted with his subject, and entertained a just appreciation of the talents and virtues of our deceased friend.

Doctor Flagg was a practical man, and adopted no theory or opinion before his judgment was convinced by a thorough and sufficient examination. In the circle of his earlier friends, when scientific subjects were introduced for discussion, he was invariably appealed to for a decision; and his opinion, which was given with

unaffected modesty, was always correct. The practical good sense and unerring sagacity of judgment which distinguished him through life, was perceived and felt by his earlier associates and friends, and is alluded to here as a fact that favors our conviction of the intrinsic merit of homœopathy, which numbers amongst its earlier and efficient advocates the most solid and reflective minds.

The remark made by his biographer that Dr. Flagg "received but an indifferent early education," is correct, as the term education is generally understood and applied, that is, to the discipline of the schools. But in that education which is most favorable to physical and intellectual development and perfect manhood, there was no deficiency at any period of his life. The foundation of this education was established early, and it was continued most faithfully and unremittingly through life, by improving every opportunity of obtaining useful knowledge, and applying that knowledge to the progress of science, and the promotion of human happiness. A more admirable and perfect education, both physical and intellectual, it is the good fortune of few mortals to attain.

Our friends of the homœopathic school are not all, perhaps, fully aware of the beneficial influence which is felt from the efforts of such a man in the successful propagation of a new science. Eminent in his profession, but still more eminent for his benevolence, and his disinterested and unremitting efforts to promote all good works, his motives and his judgment commanded universal respect.

The fact is worthy of especial notice, that where he failed to convince, he never gave offence; nor did he ever lose a friend or make an enemy by embracing and sustaining the homœopathic system of cure. To ears that would be offended at the denunciation of allopathic practice, he never denounced it,—to those who could listen with no patience to the merits of homœopathy, he never recommended it,—but by successful example, and wise, yet unobtrusive precept, he induced hundreds to embrace the system, who would have remained deaf to all other influence in its behalf, perhaps forever.

Can the suggestion be pardoned, that it might be useful for us all who desire to witness the extension of a system of practice, which is the greatest medical boon ever bestowed on man, to imitate the wise forbearance no less than the untiring zeal of our departed friend, in endeavors to propagate what we esteem the *only science* of cure?

LOGIC AND LIBERALITY.

The following dialogue actually occurred not a hundred miles from Philadelphia, between a physician who belongs to the highly educated fraternity of allopaths and two or three ladies, homœopaths, or who were at least under homœopathic treatment at the time. As a specimen of sound consistent logic, it deserves to be handed down to future ages, whilst the deep erudition it displays, should no doubt give its author a high rank among his professional brethren. It is worth something as a sample of the kind of argument homœopaths have to meet, and the liberal, generous spirit of individuals claiming to be the educated and enlightened professors of a liberal and humanizing science. His knowledge of homœopathy is really notable, if we may be allowed to judge from his prescriptions—no doubt quite equal to many allopaths who boast of prescribing homœopathic remedies.

DIALOGUE.

Personæ Presentis—Dr., Miss M. and a Lady.

The subject of homœopathy being introduced, the Doctor knowing the ladies were under the treatment of a homœopathic physician, remarked :—

Doctor.—Homœopathic medicines are nothing but sugar—just as well buy it by the pound. Homœopaths can do nothing in acute diseases. In fevers, the statistics show that homœopaths lose more than allopaths. That is, they lose nearly all, except a few whom time cures. Time cures nearly all who get better under homœopathic treatment.

Lady.—Strange, that the homœopaths always get time on their side. Never heard of time curing allopathic patients.

Doctor.—Oh, time does a great deal. Doctors often give more medicine than they need to. People take too much medicine any how. I do not take medicine when I am sick. They had better wait. I seldom take much medicine. Nature is the best doctor. I let nature cure me.

Miss M., another lady present, appears hoarse or coughs.

Miss M., says the doctor, why don't you have something for that hoarseness. It is really alarming. You ought to do something right away. Homœopathy or allopathy, I advise you to take something at once.

Lady.—But doctor, I thought you said you let time cure you, why may not time cure her too.

Doctor.—Oh, time might do for me, but it will not answer for her case. She must have medicine of some kind. If she will have a homœopathic doctor, let something be done immediately. It is a dangerous condition she is in.

TUESDAY.—*A gentleman present.*

The subject of homœopathy being again introduced, the gentleman remarked, that the homœopaths got along with him very well last summer when he had the cholera

Oh, said the Dr., yes. They just gave you morphine to lull the pain, and afterwards mercury or calomel. Calomel and morphine are the principal remedies given by the homœopaths in cholera. They give the most active poisons.

Lady.—But I thought the homœopaths never give calomel in cholera.

Doctor.—Oh, yes, they do. I have studied the system. I know all about it, and would practice it if I could conscientiously, as I could make more money than I can now; which is, after all, what we are all of us after.

Lady.—Well, if the homœopaths do give calomel, I suppose they are not so likely to poison us, they give so little. One dose such as you give would last them a year as they give it.

Doctor.—So much the worse. The small doses are what do the mischief. If we wish to produce a great effect, as for instance, to salivate a person we give very small doses. Small doses are often more dangerous than large ones.

The ladies were unable to continue the argument. The doctor's logic was beyond their comprehension. He had reasoned entirely around them.

EDITORIAL.

We are sorry to have occasion again to ask our readers to excuse the tardy appearance of the Journal. We are sure if they could commiserate with the editors, who attempt to furnish useful and instructive reading to the amount of sixty-four octavo pages every month, whilst driven with a large amount of out-door and in-door professional business, the calls of duty at this place and that, as they seat themselves in their chair editorial, (*not as any other editor, in the sanctum sanctorum, for the editors of a medical journal have no sanctum; no place of private retirement, secluded from the calls of suffering humanity, where they might elaborately prepare polished articles adapted to the taste of all,*) but in their chair editorial, medical and professional, liable to momentary interruption from

every quarter, they would at least exercise a little clemency, and not withhold their support for every trifling cause.

One of the editors, upon whose aid much reliance had been placed, and who had heretofore proved himself equal to almost any emergency, has, for the first time, been prostrated upon a bed of sickness. Brought almost to the borders of the grave, his ready pen has had little to do with the preparation of this number. This has thrown an unusual amount of labor upon the other editor, whose professional calls have, for the same reason, been greatly increased.

We trust also, that this delay, will be more than compensated to our readers, by our being able, at so early a period, to lay before them the proceedings of the American Institute of Homœopathy, at its Twelfth Annual Session, held in Buffalo, June 6th and 7th, the proceedings of which will well repay perusal.

There is a journal published in Philadelphia, entitled the Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Journal, edited by Dr. James Bryan, a gentleman worthy of high estimation, not only for his learning, talents, and industry, but in general for a manliness of sentiment, and for a generous estimation of those who differ from him in opinion, worthy of all praise.

As a specimen of liberality, we extract the following from its columns, headed—

“MISCELLANEOUS.”

“A druggist, in vogue among the homœopathists of London, was lately detected (in flagrante delicto,) in the very act of taking snuff while engaged in his pharmaceutical ceremonial. It is even suspected, that the wretch sneezed on the medicinal substances, he was dynamising! This event has produced an immense sensation in the United Kingdom, notwithstanding the oriental pre-occupations of the moment.

“All the want of success of the globulists during the past year is now explained. We have not learned the fate of the culpable apothecary, but an homœopathic assembly, comprising the most notorious knaves of England, Scotland, and Wales, has decided unanimously, that in future, drugs shall be obtained from a sworn *pharmacien* of the homœopaths of Paris.”
—(*Reveu Medicale*.)

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

Some notice of the meeting of this association, appeared in our last number from the pen of Dr. Geary. We allude again to the subject, partly for the purpose of expressing our own sentiments, and partly for the purpose of giving place to the excellent address of Mayor Conrad, on the occasion of the reception of the members of the association into Independence Hall, to which they were welcomed by the mayor. Mayor Conrad is, we believe, not unfriendly to homœopathy, and his action is perfectly in accordance with the true and just principles of homœopathy, when he accords due praise to learning and science, and honors in the persons and in the attainments, even of those who have arrayed themselves in an attitude hostile to us, that spirit of advancement and of progress, for which many individuals of the allopathic school most certainly are, and have been distinguished. We have no disposition to detract from their merits, nor to wrest from them one of the laurels they may justly win. On the contrary, we would joyfully entwine roses in the wreath of garlands, which should deck the brows of those allopathic physicians, who have sought earnestly for truth amid the glimmerings of light with which they have been surrounded, and amid many difficulties and embarrassments, have struggled on and on, until they have ascended the Hill of Science to the temple of fame.

And if homœopathy is what she claims to be, her sons have no reason to be envious of the honors bestowed upon the members of a school of medicine, which must ever hold a rank inferior to the rank of the school to which they are allied. For far above the temple of fame, to reach which allopathy has been so long striving, rise other mountains of higher summits, and broader elevations, and clear in the distance, on the top of their highest peaks, far above the clouds and fogs which surround their base, in the clear ether of heaven's light, stands another temple, whose brightness no clouds obscure, and whose serene glitter, no haze of darkness shall ever dim or shade; it is the temple of truth, to which, by the lights of science, homœopathy is constantly guiding all her sons.

The American Medical Association is, to old school medicine, somewhat analogous to the American Institute of Homœopathy, in its relation to the homœopathic system. It now numbers the eighth year of its existence, and has no doubt, to some extent, grown out of, and been modeled after the pattern of its predecessor in the great field of medical reform. We hail with pleasure the establishment, and look forward with joy and hope, to the annual convocations of all similar institutions, which bring together from the distant parts of our country, the savans of the profession, laden with the experience of the past, and prepared to some extent at least, to consider what sources of improvement and reform may give promise for the future. The American Medical Association is composed of gentlemen of

learning and talent, and if occasionally there be found one of illiberal mind, and of contracted views, it is no more than may, with truth, be said of every profession, of the clerical, and the legal, as well as of the medical; an evil from which, as homœopaths, we cannot at present claim to be entirely exempt.

The following extract from the speech of Dr. Hays, who was deputed to introduce the association to Mayor Conrad, on the occasion of their visit to Independence Hall, may be interesting, as explaining the objects for which this association is organized, and the purposes its members may be expected to keep in view in their future efforts :—

“I have the gratification of introducing to your Honor, the members of the American Medical Association—our National Medical Congress. This association is composed of delegates from the medical Societies, medical colleges, hospitals, and other medical institutions throughout our country. It was not instituted with any selfish views, but to accomplish objects of the greatest importance to the public at large; to improve medical science, and increase its powers for alleviating human suffering. It strives to attain these ends by securing more complete and thorough courses of instruction to students, and by raising the standard of requirements of those admitted into the ranks of the profession; by investigating the causes of the diseases which prevail in certain localities, and by seeking the means of removing those causes, or of counteracting their effects, by collecting reliable histories of the different epidemics, which, from time to time, spread over the country; and by endeavoring to devise measures for arresting their progress; by offering prizes for the most useful discoveries and improvements in medicine; and finally, by promoting every measure tending to enlarge the boundaries of our science, to increase the efficiency and augment the usefulness of our art.

“In furtherance of these objects, the association has assembled this year in our city, and we feel deeply grateful to you for your courtesy in inviting us to visit this place, so venerated by every American heart.

“The philanthropy of our profession is not restricted to curing diseases, it has a larger scope; it embraces within its range, whatever tends to the improvement of our mental or moral condition, or to confer the greatest good on the largest number. Hence the profession have never been indifferent to national objects; on the contrary, they flatter themselves that they have not been behind any other class of the community in patriotism, but that they have been always prompt to serve their country.”

The remainder of Dr. Hays' address does him no credit. It is a fulsome attempt to manufacture popularity, by recounting deeds of individual

NOTE.—The *literature* of the Dr. appears to us at fault, when, he says, in a subsequent portion of his speech, the *profession* “have served” “their country in the cabinet,”

members, which deeds, honorable perhaps in themselves, have no connection whatever with the profession of medicine, and which were very improperly made the subject of a little vain-glorious boasting, in a spot, and on an occasion, which should have been sacred to all the nobler and higher impulses of humanity.

Dr. Hays was warmly applauded during the course of his remarks. After he had concluded, Mayor Conrad replied as follows :

“ Mr. Chairman of the Committee of Arrangement, I thank you, in the name of the community which I have the honor to represent, for your eloquent introduction of our friends to the authorities of the city, and to this, the Hall of Independence.

“ Gentlemen of the American Medical Association, I am proud of the privilege of extending to you, in the name of the government, and of the people of Philadelphia, a most cordial welcome.

“ I bid you welcome to our city—a city, which, deriving a cherished distinction from the profession which you adorn, is eager, now and ever, to requite it in her tribute of respect for its professors. I welcome you to our people, whose intercourse, for many a year, with you or your brethren, has inspired a feeling, which, reserved as we are sometimes said to be, will, I doubt not, burst into earnest and unambiguous expression before you leave us.

“ I welcome you, gentlemen, to this Hall, but not as strangers, or the sons of strangers, for it is your own. As the temple and territory of Delphos, in the wildest domestic perturbations of Greece, afforded one sacred area over which the cloud of discord never gathered, one altar whose worship was never invaded, this spot, consecrated to our common American glory, knows no lines of latitude, and belongs, in truth, no more to us, whose peculiar privilege it is to inherit its guardianship, than to our brothers—to *you*. In coming hither, therefore, you *come home*. These precincts have been hallowed, for all time, by the heroic virtues of your and our fathers. This is the fountain from which the living waters of American liberty were first drawn, and it is, therefore, the most sacred ; woe to the generation in which it ceases to be sacred ! but, like the well of the Patriarch, all the tribes of Liberty’s Israel, own here an equal right, and owe here an equal homage.

“ In no sense, then, can I greet you as strangers ; for yours are names familiar to every American proud of the science of his country, and those

“ and even taken up arms for her defence ” in the field. There is no medical department, properly speaking, connected with our general government, and certainly no health office connected with the cabinet at Washington, and for the medical *profession* to “ take up arms,” unless it be for the alleviation of suffering, appears to us, not only incompatible, but utterly impossible. We trust Dr. Hays uses the lancet more carefully than he does “ *the King’s English*.”

who are united, by this association, in a cause so lofty as that eloquently characterized by your chairman, may not only claim the universal and acknowledged privileges of the republic of minds, but the rights of a nearer and dearer charter—the brotherhood of beneficence—the kindred claims of noble hearts knit in the highest and holiest of human aspirations. In this spirit, with the most fervent and fraternal sentiments of respect and regard, I greet and welcome you.

“You are right, Mr. Chairman, in claiming, amid the associations which hallow these precincts, a peculiar privilege for your profession—a profession which not only sprinkled, with the first blood of the Revolution, the highest altar upon which valor vowed and dedicated our country to freedom—I refer, as you have referred, to Dr. Warren and Bunker Hill—but which, in every struggle for the enlargement and enlightenment of human destinies, has been eminently distinguished for courage, zeal, and fidelity to the rights of man. You have, therefore, a peculiar right to claim kindred here, and have that claim allowed; and within these walls, which witnessed the zeal of Rush, it would be a treason to virtue to forget that one of the lights of your profession shed glory upon the solemn debates of this hall, and was foremost among those that bade yonder bell, (preserved and devoted to the veneration of posterity,) with its iron tongue to “*proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all the inhabitants thereof.*”

“It is the glorious peculiarity of your profession, that, while ambition, in its ordinary and most applauded paths, plays the part of *the destroyer*, and wins glory at the expense of human life and happiness, you and yours, with a more exalted civilization and a nobler heroism, have ever *sought to save*. Next to the highest of all human courage—if, indeed, it be merely *human*—that of the martyrs of religious truth, the courage of the physician, whether on the battle-field or in the lazar-house, the courage of science and humanity is the most sublime, and best entitled to the *clarum et venerabile nomen*. The vulgar courage of the warrior, under the base stimulus of passion, or the low greed of applause, can hardly be compared to the noble intrepidity of the surgeon, who gleams, in the ruthless and red-handed reaper’s path, the leavings of battle, and still less with the hero of the hospital, who encounters the grim antagonist, in the horrid silence and gloom of the pestilence. Imagination can hardly embody an instance of human courage and virtue more sublime and unearthly than that of the physician, who, in the midnight of a plague-stricken city, midst the fetid solitudes of its alleys, and entering the devoted hovel of the wretched ministers—while only pestilence, and misery, and death, and God look on to the perishing. I need not step from this spot to grasp the hand of many a hero who claims no laurel—many a noble philanthropist whose sacred labors in scenes like these, have been unmarked save by the eye that never slumbers, and remembered only by Him, who alone can reward.

“To such a profession, one venerable from its antiquity, noble from the grandeur of its objects, illustrious from its achievements, and which demands every aid and energy of genius and science, of head and heart that dignifies the race, it is not strange that, go where it may, a ready homage greets and a ready blessing attends it. In our own city, all that is noble in patriotism, all that is exalted in science, all that is bright and beautiful in the arts that refine society, all that is lovely, and cherished, and holy in private life, combine to render the profession sacred and dear to us.

“There are few living, to whom some one death in the past is not the sole event and solitary memory of the survivors’s life—to him a lonely pyramid in the melancholy desert; and to such a mind and memory, the debt of the death-bed, where science rendered holy by its office ministered, though never paid is never repudiated. I never knew a good man, still less a good woman, who had not such a debt—a debt which bankrupt gratitude cherished with its latest affections and devoutest memories.

“In these times, when the omnipotence of associated effort is invoked for so much that is of dubious merit, it is a gratifying spectacle to behold the enlightened professors of the most exalted of all arts—men, sage and grave, unselfish and unaspiring, forsaking the homes to which they are bound by the affections and the afflictions of thousands, by wealth, and fame, and influence, to wander wearily away upon a pilgrimage of hundreds of leagues, in the cause and interests of the human family, its security, its health and happiness. For more than ten years, the representatives of your profession have gathered in convention. What other body of our citizens have made a like effort—a like sacrifice? Selected from the most eminent of the profession, the delegates have been men whose years, like their virtues, were many.

“How difficult must have been to them the effort to burst through the bonds of a relying and clinging practice! How great the labor and how heavy the sacrifice! They have already visited, in this duty, the cities of every section of our wide country: how many have fallen by the wayside? How many martyrs could you not thus number in this cause? How many of the good and great of the profession have, in these benevolent pilgrimages, joined the ranks of the thousands who have sacrificed themselves at the requisitions of duty as recognized and enforced by your self-imposed laws—joining the dead in the effort to aid the living. The epitaph of the Spartans at Thermopylæ, might well commemorate the virtues and the fate of these martyrs. But if the cost has been great, the results have been commensurate.

“Of the professional advantages attained, though I know them to be invaluable, I will not presume to speak, but I may be permitted to state, as health is the most important subject of municipal provision and care, that the transactions of the association, which I have examined with great

interest, comprise much that merits the attention and will reward the respectful consideration of the municipal governments of the Union.

"It is natural that Philadelphia should feel, as she does feel, a profound interest in the cause of medical education in this country. She cannot, of course, forget that it was here that the first medical college was established in this country; that its merits and success extorted a trans-atlantic tribute of admiration, and that progressing rapidly, but wisely, it achieved and maintained an equality with the most celebrated institutions of the old world. As the cause of medical education has extended, and institutions worthy of the cause and country have sprung up, each triumph, thus attained, has been regarded here as the successful outbursting of an offshoot from the primary effort, and Philadelphia, while rejoicing in the expansion and elevation of medical education throughout the land, has almost fancied—so earnest is her interest in the medical education—that she had a right to indulge a parental pride in all that advances that interest.

"These genial feelings have been maintained, in all their early and fervid freshness, by constant intercourse with all sections of our country. The ingenuous and gallant youths that have come hither for medical instruction, have, in their unstudied intercourse, exhibited the character of their respective States in a light so generous and exalted, as to win our affections not only for themselves, but for the communities and States which could exult in them as their own. Winter after winter we have had hundreds of these noble young spirits among us here. And let me remark, that rigorous as I am said to be in the administration of the law, I have yet to know the first occasion to rebuke, much less to punish, a medical student.

"We have found them as gentle and decorous in their deportment as they are exalted in their aspirations, and had Philadelphia—eminently catholic in her affection for her sister communities—needed a lesson of love and loyalty, these noble young missionaries would have taught it. This interchange of sympathies has endured for the third of a century, (may it last forever.) Her youths who formerly bore these sentiments to the remote sections of our republic, stand before me now as the revered sages and ornaments of their profession, meeting here the evidences of a reputation which had preceded them, and has long been cherished by us. And who can tell what have been the results of this kindly interchange of kindly feelings? It has doubtless been felt in every commercial, social, and political relation of life, correcting the prejudices, harmonizing the discords and subduing the dangers of our common country.

"We realize these facts. We recognize in the members of an enlightened profession like yours, so many patriots and philanthropists engaged in the great and general interests of the human race, and apart from the mere scientific acquisitions of your annual meetings, we perceive, in them, results auspicious to all that we cherish, that is kindly, forbearing and conservative

between man and man, party and party, state and state, section and section; and so regarding them, we hail and greet you with a welcome, as sincere and cordial as the heart can forge or the tongue can utter."

The speech of the mayor was interrupted by frequent rounds of applause; after he had concluded, the delegates inspected the curiosities in the Hall, and soon after left the building.

OUR DUNNING LETTER.

"**PAY EARLY.**" We have taken this as the motto of a little article we wish to address to our friends and patrons. *Pay early*, that is promptly, and during the forepart of the year. The Journal has not yet paid its way. We lose, and are contented to lose, at present some hundred dollars every year to support it, if it be necessary. But we are not contented, in addition to all this, to go begging for our editorial matter; to appear to live on the unpaid toil of others; to neglect to pay as other Journals pay for valuable and well-written articles; neither are we content to neglect to serve our readers with the best articles which can be had, because the Journal can't pay for them.

Our subscription has been large enough to lead us to expect better things, but the neglect on the part of many of our patrons, of those two little words "**PAY EARLY**," has somewhat diminished our list, besides putting us constantly to extra expense and trouble. Forward your subscriptions, gentlemen, at the forepart of the year. They will be duly acknowledged on the third page of the cover. *Pay early*, send by mail.

Congress has provided for registering all valuable letters, the careful delivery of which will be looked after by the government. *Pay early*, send by mail.

THE PUBLISHERS.

OUR BEGGING LETTER.

YES, gentlemen, we have actually become beggars. We are interested, deeply interested in the success of the Journal, as we are also in the success of Homœopathy. We are no partizan Homœopaths, but we like Homœopathy in the abstract as well as in the concrete, and whether in substantial, in decimal, or in infinitesimal doses, we take the motto of Patrick Henry as it stands with us, Homœopathy now, Homœopathy *forever*. We wish to see it flourish, and we wish to see the Journal become the means of making it flourish. Now this can be done if we will all work together, if we will speak well as we can of the good, and not be too severe in our censures of that which cannot certainly be perfect. In short, gentlemen, we wish to ask you to aid us in increasing the circulation of the Journal, and in return we promise to make it as good as we can. Will you help us?

THE PUBLISHERS.

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — JULY, 1855. — No. IV.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

PHYSIOLOGY, OR THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE HUMAN ORGANIZATION.

BY C. E. TOOTHAKER, M. D.

*"God made man of the dust of the earth, and breathed into him
the breath of life."*

MAN is a complex being, possessed of a twofold nature of qualities and characteristics, the tendencies of which, like the positive and negative poles of an electrical battery, are towards extremes, and in seeking some form of words by which to express most clearly the nature and origin of this diversity, it would be difficult to find language more appropriate than that which was chosen by the great Historian and Law-giver of Israel, "God made man of *the dust of the earth*, and breathed into him *the breath of life*."

When we look upon man in the concrete, we perceive a human body, guided and impelled by a human soul. A physical or material organization, under the influence of some spiritual or dynamic power. This concrete view of man is intuitive. It is God's revelation. It is what we know of ourselves, with but little or with no aid from our reasoning faculty. It is universal—a recognition of individuality and identity, or personality, and even when our reason has not taught us the distinction between the physical and the spiritual, our consciousness teaches us the existence of both.

This concrete view is the starting point—the only true starting point from which we can get a correct view of the human organization; and the doctrine of the spiritualist, which supposes that all the forms of matter are only emanations of spiritual existences, or that there is truly no such thing as matter in the abstract, is no

less at war with this intuitive perception of our nature, than the doctrine of the materialist, that spirit is only matter refined, sublimated and perfected, and that truly speaking, or abstractly considered, there is no such thing as spirit.

Commencing then, at this starting point, viewing man in this concrete form, and summoning reason to our aid, we only confirm the doctrine our intuition had taught us, when we made our first grand division of the human organism into matter and spirit; the two great elements of life, opposite elements in the combination of which, all we see of life is manifested; opposite elements, in the blending of which are all the harmonies of the universe.

Acknowledging then the existence of this two-fold nature in man, we are prepared to proceed with the examination of each; or, man is to be considered first, as a physical, and second, as a spiritual being.

In regard to our physical or material existence, we have an intuitive and perceptive, as well as a rational knowledge. The body is evidently a unit, composed of parts and organs. Of its unity, reason leaves us no more room to doubt, than of its identity, and as we examine this unit, we come to a knowledge of its parts, and of the separate and distinct use of each part and organ of which it is composed.

The skin or external covering is the most manifest, or the most subject to, as it is the first object that presents itself for the investigation of our senses. It serves as an investiture or clothing, with which the tout ensemble of the other organs the entire physical organism is covered. By numerous interstices and reflexions inward, it forms tubes, openings, or pores, through which are constantly issuing, a variety of excretions, for the purification of the body. It is also possessed of a function by which it is able, when in health, constantly to draw from the circumambient atmosphere, as well as from many other health-giving substances with which it may be brought in contact, the elements of life and growth; and it is worthy of remark, that none of the functions of this curious mechanism, with which we are acquainted, subject as it is to our most minute and careful observation, appears to be performed in obedience to any known mechanical or chemical laws.

This external covering or skin, is reflected inwards, through the mouth, nose, and other apertures, lining internally every cavity of

the whole organism. This internal lining differs somewhat from the external coat or covering of the body, and especially in its capacity of secreting mucus, and is hence called the mucus coat.

Passing within this external covering, we find a great variety of organs. First, the muscles, which, like so many elastic ropes, apparently endowed with a volition, or will, as well as with a capacity of motion peculiarly their own, are still subject to the active force of the ruling mind, and by their elastic force, are capable of impelling backward or forward, or of urging this way or that, any part of the body with which they may stand connected, or to which they may be attached. Each of these muscles is covered with a skin or sheath, with which it is enveloped as the body is enveloped, with its skin, and which also possesses, in common with the external skin, the property of secreting and excreting substances adapted to its use and function.

Within the great cavity of the thorax, and also in the abdomen, all the organs, as the lungs, the heart, the liver, the spleen, the kidneys, and all the abdominal viscera, are enveloped each in its own skin or sheath, which skins being reflected inwards, generally envelope each minute portion, or perhaps each ultimate particle, until in their minute divisions and subdivisions, they become lost to our senses, and defy even the powers of the microscope to detect their fineness.

Besides these abdominal viscera and muscular organs, the body is pervaded by two complete sets of blood-vessels, which, like so many elastic tubes, extend to every part, even to the minutest portions or particles of every organ or tissue, conveying streams of life, or withdrawing superfluous or effete, or worn out material, but in a manner so intricate, through tubes so fine and delicate, and acting upon the material substances in a condition so highly sublimated and refined, that no efforts of human ingenuity, and no exercise of human art, has yet been able to discover the last steps or changes in this laboratory of life, or to perceive even the minute vessels and tubes by means of which these wonderful processes are performed. Even the powers of the microscope are here set at nought, and the revelations of the most nicely constructed glasses only tell us that there are other processes beyond, which we are unable to discover. All science is at fault, and we only learn to know how much there is which still remains unknown.

From the analogies of the system, we know that all these finer organs and tubes (*as from actual observation we perceive that all the larger ones*) are also covered with a skin or sheath, and as these tubes pervade every minute portion of every organ, so these sheaths or skins, or investitures, pervade each minute portion or particle, all together composing a most wonderful and complicated system of organs, tubes, or blood-vessels, and skins or sheaths, constantly pervading each other, but acting in wonderful harmony for the developments and perfection of the whole.

The next subject which demands our attention is the nervous system; and here again we are met with a similar class of wonderful phenomena. The nervous system appears to be placed above, and to exert a controlling influence upon all the other parts of our physical organism. Composed of matter more highly sublimated and refined, susceptible of impressions from causes which would not probably affect the other constituent parts of the human system, it appears to serve as a medium of communication between the mind and the body, to convey the commands of the one to the knowledge of the other, and to return from the world without to the mind within, or from the organs of sensation to the mind, which alone takes cognizance of all sentient phenomena; all the knowledge the senses may acquire, and all the impressions which they may by any means receive.

The nervous system then is a system of communication, a congeries of highways, roads, and foot-paths; a railroad, with an infinite number of diverging branches, an electric or a magnetic telegraph; its fine, and still finer wires extending in every possible direction, and over which a system of communication is established, compared with which the lightning's flash lingers, the magnetic telegraph is slow, and all human inventions afford but imperfect and feeble illustrations.

As a system of railroads, it may be said that there is constantly passing over it from the central mind to the peripheral organs of sensation, and perhaps to the other organs, cars freighted with commands, the results of the judgment, or the emanations of the will, and that these cars are as continually returned to the mind freighted with the evidence of obedience, the perceptions of sense. And all this system of communication is so harmoniously conducted, when left

to the operations of nature in a healthy state, that there is never likely to arise the least possible irregularity or interference with any function. Such is the nervous system, in regard to its office or function, and such the position it holds in the economy. It is a form of matter upon which spirit makes impressions, and which spirit uses as a medium of communication with other matter and other organs.

If we examine the nervous system with regard to the material of which it is composed, and its locality in the body, we find first, the brain, which appears to be composed almost entirely of what is denominated nerve matter, separated by various convolutions into departments, covered with a neurolemma or skin, and capable of being acted upon, or of receiving various distinct impressions from the influence of external objects. We perceive that this nerve matter extends through the entire length of the spinal column, that it gives out in its progress a great number of branches, and finally, near the extremity of the spine, divides, what is there left of itself, into two large branches, which, extending down the limbs, divide and subdivide until they are lost in the various tissues of which the different parts of each organ is composed.

This nerve matter appears to exist in the brain as a large mass, but divided into convolutions; at or below the base of the brain, in what is termed the Medulla Oblongata, in a compact bundle of nerve fibres; in the spine, in a large cord, which is subdivided in the limbs into small ropes; and each of these is again divided and subdivided, until they reach the extremities of the system, in an inconceivable number of strands, filaments, or threads, of such more than silken fineness and tenuity, as to set at nought all human calculation and conception, and only to convey to our minds some conception of the infinite divisibility of matter.

Now all this nervous system is enclosed, every nervous cord has its sheath, every fibre and thread is covered with a skin, and it is probable that in all the infinite divisions and subdivisions, which "no eye can see, no glass can reach," each imperceptible nerve point, is covered with its own more than imperceptible skin or coat, of almost infinite fineness, delicacy, and susceptibility, through which all the impressions we receive of external objects, are conveyed to the still more delicate and susceptible nerve fibre, along which it is conveyed with wonderful delicacy and care, with wonderful accuracy

and precision, to the sentient power, the seat of consciousness, the habitation of the mind or soul.

In the view which we are now giving of the human organization, we have intended to say but little of the bony structure. These structures, the frame-work of the system, are also covered with a skin or sheath, and are pervaded by a numerous set of blood-vessels, arteries, and no doubt of nerves of life, if not of sensation, minute in size, and delicate in structure, by which the processes of life and growth, as well as of absorption and decay, are carried on and perfected; and each of these vessels is also covered with a skin or sheath.

From all we have said of the human organism, it will be perceived that it is composed of a number of distinct systems; that each system pervades or runs through, sustains and supports each other system, so that one is necessary to the existence of the other; that though each act distinctly, yet each act in harmony, and they perform all their offices without infringing upon the duties of any other.

If we examine the skin in all its parts, in all its minute ramifications, both as a mucus and as a serous coat, and throughout all the extent both of the internal and external organs, we shall find that it will present us with the full and perfect outline of the man, with his full rotundity of form and shape, that each internal as well as external organ may be represented by the skin which covers it, and the skins that pervade it, so that, in this man of skins, it will be difficult to find a spot, either internal or external, which is not occupied by skin.

If we examine the system of blood-vessels, in all their infinitely minute ramifications, we shall find that either the arterial or venous system alone, presents almost a complete contour of the human form, leaving no vacant spot in the whole organism which is not filled with their presence, so that it would seem almost as if three distinct sets of organs were constantly filling the same absolute space at the same time.

Nor is this all. The nervous system is equally ramified in its extent, equally pervades every part, fills each equally with its presence, and if all the infinite multiplicity of nerve fibre could be dissected out, it would again form a perfect figure of the human form divine, in all its rotundity of size and beauty, and so filled internally

as well as externally, with this wonderfully working telegraph of the mind, that no spot perhaps the size of a pin's or needle's point, could be found that was not full of its presence. This then is the fourth, or, if we divide the nervous system into two parts, the impulsive and the recurrent nerves, we have the fifth system of organs, everywhere present, and each filling the entire space occupied by the body.

If we commence then internally, and proceed outward, we have first, the man of bones; second, the man of muscles; third, the man of arteries; fourth, the man of veins; fifth, the man of nerves; and sixth, the man of skins; each perfect and entire, and each, if we except the muscular and bony structures, occupying the entire space occupied by the body.

What a wonderful piece of machinery is this—how complicated and yet how simple. How does it ascend and descend from materiality to immateriality? and the contrary. How does it set at nought the ordinary laws of physics, as well as the ordinary laws of mechanical action? How do these complicated structures perform such different offices, whether it be in immediate juxtaposition or in absolute entity of space? Why is it that organs need to be so infinitely divided, subdivided, and expanded, unless it is that they may act upon material infinitely sublimated and refined. What are the media by which spirit acts upon and communicates with matter, or by which matter impresses spirit? These questions impress themselves upon us, in view of what we can perceive of our physical organization.

Besides this, there are various functions performed by these physical organs, which imply the presence of some attractive force or dynamic power or agency, which appears to occupy a mean or middle space between the material and the spiritual elements of our being, and which, when its exercise is interrupted, as it often may be by exterior agencies, modifies the healthful action of the physical or material tissues and organs, and may interrupt or prevent their use.

We have now given a brief view of the material part of our organization. We have seen that the phenomena it exhibits are such as to admonish us that "we are fearfully and wonderfully made."

There are many points of this subject on which it would be a pleasure to enlarge. Intimately connected with this subject is the means of growth, nourishment, and support of these organs, and

the various health and life-giving influences with which they are surrounded. The adaptation of different kinds of food and drink to the life and health of this wonderful economy. The various deleterious or death-producing influences to which they are exposed. And how tissues so delicate, so refined, so almost infinitely attenuated, may be affected injuriously by very minute and subtle, as well as by more material causes. But time fails, and the present article is necessarily too limited for an effort of this nature. Something must be left for inference, and practical lessons may be drawn from what we already know.

LETTER TO THE HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIANS OF THE UNITED STATES.

PRESENTED TO THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMŒOPATHY

BY B. F. JOSLIN, M. D.

MEDICAL BRETHREN:—

IN endeavoring to fulfill the duty of addressing you on some topics designated by our National Society, I believe it will be in accordance with the spirit of their resolution, to offer some thoughts on THE ADVANCEMENT OF MEDICAL SCIENCE, AND ESPECIALLY ON HOMŒOPATHY, CONSIDERED AS IMPROVABLE.

Your practice is a continual confirmation of the fundamental law of therapeutics. The verification of this law, however, by Hahnemann and his successors, are already so numerous, that comparatively little can be added to the extreme probability of its universality by any new clinical observations. It is not chiefly in this direction that you are to labor for the *advancement* of medical science; though by the repetition of verifications you may promote its *diffusion* among those who hitherto remain skeptical.

The law of cure, and some obvious inferences from it being established, but the curative property of the great mass of material agents being still undiscovered, your more useful efforts in advancing the healing art will not often be in searching for new principles, but for new facts—not for new methods of employing known remedies, but for new remedies to be employed under the guidance of principles with which you are already familiar. The term new is not here intended to exclude the hitherto undiscovered properties of drugs, partially proved. Revealing the functions still latent in one

of these, may be virtually equivalent to creating a new remedy. The provings and reprovings of drugs constitute the great work devolving upon the disciples of Hahnemann.

The additions thus made can never shake the fundamental principle of similitude, nor the general principle of proving, which the very terms of that law of cure imply. Thus far, at least, the homœopathic system ranks among the branches of established science.

The same rank, however, cannot be accorded to many subordinate generalizations, which ingenious theorists attempt to introduce into the superstructure. For example, the relative importance of a medicine to different organs and functions, and that of different medicines to the same organ or function, can never be exactly determined till the provings of such medicine or medicines shall have been completed. In the meantime, the classifications which relate to these, and which convenience may require, are to be regarded only as approximate, provisional and temporary.

Still lower in scientific rank, and more vacillating, are systems of therapeutics founded on pathological hypotheses or mere clinical experience. The bad success of other schools should teach ours to avoid squandering their time by efforts in that direction. Such systems require frequent reconstruction.

The legitimate extension of the *Materia Medica* by provings, is not liable to occasion similar oscillations throughout the fabric. Real materials accumulate nearly in the ratio of the number of experiments. If some unsound elements are unavoidably introduced, they will, by a kind of interstitial and molecular growth, analogous to nutrition in the human body, be ultimately eliminated without any sudden or general shock, their places being supplied by others which better stand the test of enlarged experience.

Thus, new symptoms give to the *Materia Medica* structure, its *extension*; the verification of old ones, its *solidification*. Original provings effect the former; reprovings effect both. The repetition of the experiments by different provers, will determine the relative frequency of recurrence of the several genuine symptoms, and consequently their relative adaptedness to the average human organism.

But no genuine drug symptoms are absolutely useless, however rare the organisms to which they are peculiar; so that few need

decline making contributions to the *Materia Medica* from fear of vitiating it with their idiosyncrasies. Natural or acquired peculiarities in a portion of the provers, and in some of them a susceptibility which almost amounts to disease, may be requisite for the ultimate completeness of the world's knowledge of the properties of medicines.

The therapeutic utility of that part of the *Materia Medica* thus developed, will not be limited to a class of patients whose normal state is similar to that of these sensitive provers; for a disease generates a sensibility to the action of its appropriate remedy; and in many instances this remedy may remain undiscovered, until its morbid properties shall have been developed by persons naturally more sensitive to its action than the patients themselves in their normal condition. There may be many symptoms of a drug which a majority of provers may be incapable of experiencing as its effects; and if by disease, a great number of these symptoms should be developed in their own persons, they might be dependent for their cure, upon the labors of a few whose constitutions or conditions at the time of the provings had been dissimilar to their own.

Both classes of persons above referred to as proper agents for extending a *Materia Medica Pura*, are supposed to have few symptoms, except those produced by the proving, and to be capable of distinguishing the former, and careful to reject them.

There is another class from whom may be obtained verifications of symptoms previously established. These are patients. The confirmations which they afford are of two kinds, pathogenetic and therapeutic. Both require great discrimination and caution, for distinguishing the effects of the drug from the natural progress or retrogradation of the disease.

Meagre descriptions of cases cured under several remedies given in quick succession, contribute nothing to the confirmation of the *Materia Medica*.

If the symptoms of a case are minutely noted, their entire removal under a single remedy, tends to verify the pathogenesis, but not in the same degree as would the recurrence of an equal number of symptoms, in reproving by new provers. Such cures afford collateral evidence in favor of the *Materia Medica*; they fortify, but without extending it. To admit new symptoms on mere therapeutic evidence, would be in some degree a return of the uncertain method of the empirical school.

The use of patients for *pathogenetic* purposes is attended with similar difficulties, and requires similar precautions. Yet the morbid effects of medicines appropriate for the cure, will afford frequent opportunities of confirming the results primarily derived from the healthy. By marking in a *Materia Medica* or repertory, the symptoms thus confirmed, physicians might collect much concurrent evidence. Under a symptom of the former, or drug of the latter, an oblique line (1) might be placed for every unequivocal pathogenetic confirmation, and another oppositely inclined for every unequivocal curative one. The number of marks would show the amount of confirmations. Whenever they mutually intersected, they would form an approximation to a star, already in our school the conventional sign that the drug has been observed to exhibit both modes of action with reference to the symptom.

The morbid effects of drugs are frequently observed to be the same on the sick as on the healthy, even to the minutest particulars; and it is probable that the *real* morbid effects are identical, and that the principal reason for not relying on such provings is, the danger of introducing symptoms proper to the disease alone. This danger would vary with the knowledge and caution of the observer.

A similar danger attends *therapeutic* verifications, and is in one respect greater, viz., in regard to *critical days*. Many accurate observers have noticed certain epochs of decline or termination of diseases, especially those of a febrile character. The more marked of these changes occur on the third, seventh, eleventh, fourteenth, or twenty-first days. Several partial crises are observed in the progress of the same case, each leaving it changed by the somewhat sudden disappearance or mitigation of some of the symptoms. Now, if under a correct treatment, each of these changes is *on the whole*, a favorable one, and the final result happy, the several improvements and the final cure are not attributable merely to Nature; and on the other hand, not merely to the medicines given *immediately* before the epochs of the several changes. If others had been previously administered, they may have equal claims as the cause of the improvement or cure. If the physician neglects the observation of critical days, he may draw erroneous conclusions in regard to the curative influence of a drug. The quotidian changes are generally appreciated. The before mentioned critical days are also, in regard

to some symptoms, and in some degree, days of exacerbation, and their neglect might vitiate the pathogenetic confirmations, though usually less than the therapeutic. To prove medicines on the healthy is the great work which devolves on our school.

Some allege as an objection to additional provings, that the pile of materials is already inconveniently large. In regard to this, they might best appreciate the influence of additions, by means of subtractions; because, by making the latter, we can compare objects with which we are already acquainted. As an experiment then, let any physician expunge at random, one-half of each paragraph of a *Materia Medica* or repertory, or, what is equivalent, systematically avoid consulting the first or last half of each paragraph, throughout the book. The mere conception of such a course must satisfy any experienced and thorough practitioner, of the impossibility of attaining even a near approximation to his present success, without vast additional labor. Toward the true remedy, and often to one only analogous to it, he would approximate by a longer series of comparisons than that which now suffices for obtaining the *similimum*. Such being the effect of curtailing our present resources, we can on this, as on many other subjects, reason from subtraction to addition, and from the past to the future. It is presumable, that the effect of adding will be opposite to that of subtracting, and that of future contributions similar to that of former ones. The effect of reducing the number of symptoms of a remedy in a *Materia Medica*, affords an argument in favor of *reprovings*; that of reducing the number of remedies appended to a symptom in a repertory, an argument in favor of *original* provings.

We are agreed as to the general mode of improving our *Materia Medica*, i. e., by the examination of morbid properties, and not by the *direct* observation of curative ones, on which other schools rely. This will always insure to ours an immense advantage in the rapidity and certainty of development, which will be proportional to the labor bestowed.

I have hitherto referred to our fundamental principles, which are eternal, and our materials, which are cumulative.

Is the science of medicine in all its comprehensiveness, to become equally reliable, or improvable with equal certainty and rapidity? This is not to be expected. Some auxiliary branches, common to all schools, must, from their nature, remain more uncertain and

less progressive ; and when the exclusive labor of cultivating *them* shall devolve also upon the disciples of Hahnemann, you will, with these sciences, inherit those difficulties which are necessarily inherent in them ; though some difficulties will be more easily surmounted with the aid of Homœopathy ; and some of the problems which present other difficulties, will themselves sink into practical insignificance, in proportion as the great truths of our system are appreciated.

Many physiological and pathological problems are of such a character as to present to those homœopathists who may attempt their solution, elements of uncertainty similar to those encountered by previous medical theorists ; so that, considered in relation to some of these collateral or auxiliary topics, Reformed Medicine is not destined to be exempt from slow development. Here lie the same rocks on which have been wrecked so many navigators of other times, compelled by their position simultaneously to encounter invisible under-currents, and unforeseen shifting of winds. Or, to speak less figuratively, the investigator is compelled to grapple with a problem of numerous and uncertain elements.

Now, if a great portion of what all schools, our own inclusive, allow to be medical problems, are for a long time to remain without solution, and some of them ever to remain incapable of any that is demonstrably true, is this a ground of discouragement to the followers of Hahnemann ? Does it affect the certainty of reward for your proper labors in the advancement of Medicine, considered in its more important practical bearings ? In this respect your position is different from that of the physiological schools. With them, theories of the functions of the human organism are the foundation of therapeutics. They are working at one unfinished monument ; you at another. Their alterations are in a considerable degree, fundamental, and cause dilapidations in the superstructure, and necessitate its frequent demolition and reconstruction. You build on an immovable foundation, and every extensive alteration involves progression.

In proportion to your faith in this, will, *cæteris paribus*, be your happiness and activity ; for one of the most agreeable and effectual incitements to labor, is the certainty of success.

You have not, like many of your allopathic neighbors, the gloomy and paralysing skepticism which keeps them in doubt, respecting the

proper reply to such inquiries as the following: Is there such a thing as therapeutic science? Is the world, considered as one complex individual, advancing more and more toward maturity in medical knowledge? Have we any means of determining whether this age knows more than the last, or whether the next generation will be wiser than our own? If all these questions had to be answered in the negative, the philanthropist and lover of truth would be left without any stimulus to exertion in the cause of medical science.

The world, in some of its aspects, is calculated to give this discouraging impression. In general, the controversies of parties and sects seem incapable of settlement. Many old divisions continue for ages, whilst new ones arise to occasion increased distraction of the human mind. If one sect or another acquires in its turn a temporary preponderance or popularity, this is due to the eloquence of its champions, or some fortuitous advantage, oftener than to any new and conclusive demonstration of truth.

No doubt many place our medical sect in the same category. But from what has been above stated, it is evident that our method of investigation, if compared with the modes in which many medical, moral and political theories have been developed, would exhibit a striking contrast favorable to Homœopathy, not only with regard to its inherent truth, but its power of eventually gaining universal reception.

I am respectfully and fraternally yours,

New York, June 4th, 1855.

B. F. JOSLIN.

INTRODUCTORY LECTURE

DELIVERED AT THE LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL IN 1855.

BY T. R. LEADHAM, M. D., M. R. C. S., SURGEON ACCOUCHEUR TO THE HOSPITAL.

[From the British Journal of Homœopathy.]

GENTLEMEN:

In commencing the delivery of a few lectures on the subject of obstetrics and uterine diseases in connection with Homœopathy, I shall have to crave your indulgence to a considerable extent;—*in the first place*, on account of the partial account of the partial interest that may attach to the subjects on which I shall have to discourse, much of them being necessarily very common-place to

my hearers, and likewise for the lack of novelty, which must appear to many, my seniors and superiors in medical practice. This position, which is barely relieved by the presence of students, (of whom we have unfortunately a deficiency) will probably continue to exist so long as the Medical Colleges preserve their silent, though not less hostile and destructive posture, against a fair and philosophical enquiry after "*the truth*" in medicine; so long as they brand as medical heretics, or object to as medical graduates all those who evince a desire to enquire into homœopathy, or act upon their convictions when investigation shall have proved to them, that they are based on reason, experiment and truth.

In the second place, I must crave your indulgence for the absence of any new discoveries which might be supposed to justify my occupying the position which I have consented to take upon this occasion. Therefore, gentlemen, if I am not so happy as to claim your interest, or to rivet your attention by the exposition of ingenious novelties in the department to which I am more especially attached, I will at least endeavor to focus some rays from other more gifted sources, and thus to return you the only gratitude in my power for your kind attendance here this day. But my present observations will bear little on the *special* subject to which my other lectures will refer, since I appear to-day as introducing the *whole*, rather than *my own* particular lecture, and am happy to announce that Dr. Quin will bear me in countenance by the delivery of a few lectures on those parts of the *Materia Medica* which apply more particularly to the treatment of cholera. After which Dr. Hamilton will give some lectures on clinical medicine, and Dr. Russell will complete the series with a few lectures on *the subject of diet*. When entering a subject for the first time, in connection with Homœopathy, or, as may be said in the present state of medical science, having the Homœopathic doctrines as its basis, it would hardly be just, and would be a very meagre evidence of the value we set upon this great therapeutic discovery, if we were to pass over in silence the character and labours of the great founder, Hahnemann. Hackneyed though the subject may be, and from that circumstance, however stale and unprofitable it may be thought, the character of a man like Hahnemann presents so many varied phases, that when contemplated by different individuals, the mind of each may receive a distinctive impression, and reflect into the

future, points of fresh interest. It is not, therefore, with the prospect of fatiguing your attention by the repetition of an "oft and well told tale," that I would briefly do homage to the genius and philanthropy of Hahnemann in this London Homœopathic Hospital, which may figuratively be considered as a scintillation of his genius—an offspring of his labours. I am one of those who think that the name of Hahnemann, and the distinctive title of Homœopathy should never be lost sight of, for have we not handed down to us for honour and immortality—Hippocrates and his aphorisms—Galen and critical writings,—Avicenna and his herbarium,—Ambrose Pare and his Cesarian section,—John Hunter and his physiology,—Linacre, and the College of Physicians,—Jenner and vaccination,—Harvey and the circulation of the blood,—and shall we not perpetuate the list by adding, Hahnemann and Homœopathy? the most expansive discovery that any of them can lay claim to; limited to no era; imprisoned within the language of no country; not isolated in the indigenous herbarium of any *one* *Materia Medica*; nor lost by diffusion through the complex preparations of any *one* pharmacopœia; but applicable, appreciable, comprehensible, and remediable in every clime, and by every people. Is the light of Hahnemann to be hid under a bushel, while every other great benefactor of the human race is made to adorn the discoveries with which his name was associated, and is floated down the stream of time a beacon for his generation? And then we have the example of the Royal College of Surgeons in doing homage to the name of John Hunter by an annual oration, in which *his* career, and *his* labours for science are repeated to an untiring audience, I believe we should be fulfilling a duty to the memory of a *greater* than John Hunter, as well as to the rising generation of medical men, by annually drawing forth to public hearing some of the varied treasures bequeathed to us in the labours and works and works of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of Homœopathy. This will be more strikingly appreciated if we survey the inroads now being gradually made into the domains of homœopathy, by the adoption of its medicines, one by one, by the allopathic branch of the profession, and by their applying them to the more prominent conditions of disease *in material doses*, which can only exert a favorable action where the symptoms exhibit a certain amount of intensity; yet at the same time they repudiate homœopathy and all connected with

it; it must be clear, however, that in *thus* grafting the fruitful branch of homœopathy into the old tree of allopathy, the desired result (such as is witnessed in the vegetable world) will not be accomplished, but a spurious fruit will be the offshoot, and the benefit to mankind, in the same proportion, limited. After this manner *Belladonna* has been appropriated by Dr. Gardner of London, as a new cure for scarlatina. *Arnica* has been recognised and used as a valuable surgical auxiliary. *Aconite* has been honoured by the patronage of Dr. Fleming, in a volume in which he has confirmed its powers as a valuable substitute for the lancet. *Cannabis sativa* has become a fashionable sedative in *nervous headaches*, for *nervous coughs*, and other derangements of the nervous system. *Nux vomica* has of late come into vogue as a remedy for *dyspepsia* and *constipation*; and *Camphor*, though not yet adopted by the Board of Health, has received the encomiums of the profession as a successful medicine for the incipient stage of *cholera*. But the few cases in which these remedies can be found useful when administered after this fashion, will leave homœopathy rich in resources beyond the reach of such unacknowledged plagiarisms. The branch of therapeutics as taught by the old schools, must be entirely lopped off from the good tree of medical science before they can hope to graft in with success the fruitful boughs of homœopathy. The career of Hahnemann may be advantageously compared with that of John Hunter; the one the father of British surgery, the other the father of modern physic. Alike in rescuing the domains of surgery and medicine from the coarse and rude details of the middle ages. Alike in advancing,—the one—physiological study; the other—the therapeutical doctrines, until they were established upon a basis which should stand the test of ages, and exhibited a series of fundamental truths which have now been acknowledged as established laws. Alike, too, in the persevering energy with which they battled against prejudice and error, and alike in the difficulties and opposition they encountered in diffusing the results of their researches; but, oh! how *unlike* in their characters as men: how simple, how pure-minded, how philanthropic, how self-denying was Hahnemann's, on the other hand—but let us say, “*de mortuis nil nisi bonum.*” Hahnemann attempted to diffuse his discoveries by publicly lecturing to the *few* he could collect to hear him; Hunter, in London, could never obtain a class of twenty pupils to hear his lectures on physiology

and comparative anatomy, although at that time the subjects were new and surpassingly interesting. Let us not, then, lose our patience or our industry, though in endeavoring to diffuse a knowledge of the true therapeutical doctrines as discovered by Hahnemann, we find ourselves compelled to address a limited audience. The character of Hahnemann, on some occasions approaches the sublime; indeed, but for a few passing clouds of occasional puerilities, and extorted recriminations, which resulted from repeated persecutions, it was sublime. "*To err is mortal.*" We may glory in his discoveries in medicine and therapeutics, but that which is above all this, was his simple-mindedness and integrity. "*Incorrupta fide vir, ob id, Fama celebratior.*" Take for example, the following quotations from his paper in "*The Lesser Writings*," called "*The Friend of Health.*" He is discussing dietetics with his brother, and says: "To retort in that would be as if from the innumerable daily examples of want of conscientiousness we should seek to prove that there was no such thing as conscience. Oh, my brother! he who has preserved this delicate, never deceptive feeling for the good and the noble, in all its simplicity and innocence, and exercises it with the readiness of an unsophisticated child, for his own and his brother's benefit, he asks not if there be human beings so degenerate as to presume to demonstrate away the conscience to a mere shadow, who asserts kindness to be a necessary fashion, and a Sybarite's life to be a lawful recreation." Again, in his "View of Professional Liberality in the Nineteenth Century," when referring to the treatment he received on announcing the discovery of Belladonna as a prophylaxis of scarlet fever, he says: "The furtherance of every means, be it ever so small, that can save human life, that can bring health and security (a God of love invented this blessed, and most wondrous of arts), should be a sacred object to the true physician; chance, or the labour of a physician has discovered this to me. Away, then, with all groveling passions at the altar of this sublime Godhead, whose priests we are! We all strive after a common holy object, but it is not easy to be obtained. It is only by joining hand in hand, only by brotherly union of our powers, only by a mutual intercommunication, and a common dispassionate development of all our knowledge, views, discoveries, and observations, that this high aim can be attained—the perfecting of the medical art. Physicians of Germany

—be brothers—be fair—be just.” Once more he writes : “I know full well that it requires heroic courage in order to cure ourselves of prejudices grown almost into mental infirmities, which have become sacred to us on account of their hoary age, and that it demands a very uncommon strength of mind to eradicate from our memory all the absurdities that have been imprinted upon our youthful susceptibilities as oracular deliverances, and to exchange them for new truths ; but the oak-garland, with which a consciousness of acting right, crowns us, rewards these victories over ourselves a thousand-fold !” It may be truly said with the poet, “*He owned no common soul.*” Hahnemann passed through the usual phases of genius. His early struggles with poverty, his successful scholarship, his first professional efforts, ill-succeeding and ill-rewarded, his despair at the imperfect state of the *art* of medicine, his recourse to literary efforts, which led to his discovery of the power of bark to produce ague, and thence his glimpse of the true *modus medendi*, from which (after a long pains-taking investigation, the object of which was to ascertain how far the reported cures by specific medicines confirmed the idea which had sprung up in his mind) resulted his assertion of the law, “*Similia similibus curantur.*” Then came his public writings, his controversies, his efforts to establish this great truth in medicine, his persecutions, his discovery that *belladonna* was a prophylactic against scarlet fever, his indignation at the unfair suspicions that were cast upon him in his worldly endeavors to obtain a hearing for a new fact, and his consequent magnanimous publication of it for the good of all mankind ; perceiving that the world would not consent to remunerate him for the information, he indignantly yielded up his knowledge, and turned aside the arrows which malignity and ignorance had formed. Then came his introduction of the moral treatment of the insane, and who, of the present day, save his few devoted followers, ever dreams that Samuel Hahnemann was foremost in the application of this humane treatment. After this persecutions again waited on his path. In consequence of his successful treatment of his patients at Königsutter, the jealousy of the apothecaries seems to have been aroused, and they succeeded in expelling him from that town in 1799. From that time till 1810, his life was wearisome and chequered ; still his untiring energy and dominant genius kept the helm, and guided him onward, whilst the

results of his study and experience were given forth in those original works which laid the foundations of the homœopathic doctrines, as "*Æsculapius in the Balance*," "*The Medicine of Experience*," and the first "*Sketch of a Materia Medica*:" besides various papers in Hufeland's and other journals. In 1810, the *Organon* appeared, which is the concrete of his literary labours, settled the foundation of his fame, and bore him in triumph again to Leipsic. This great work is the exponent of his views, as to the mode in which disease ought to be treated. Then came, in 1811, the first volume of the elaborate work which points out the weapons with which disease ought to be combated,—there are various powers and capacity of cure,—*the* remedy for the treatment of disease. Again, obstructions to his practice and persecutions intervened; but, nothing daunted, he labored on in the experiments of proving the various drugs upon the healthy, delivering lectures, and completing the other volumes of his *Materia Medica*. Now, again, obliged to quit Leipsic at a time when he seemed about to reap some reward for his labours, the apothecaries having discovered that he was accustomed to dispense his own medicines, which was contrary to the law that regulates the practice of physic in that city. He went to Cöthen in 1821, and here he is said to have worked incessantly, and produced three editions of his "*Organon*." In 1827, his further discovery of the *treatment of chronic diseases* was first mooted to his friends, and the next year the first volume of his great work on that subject appeared. In due time these were completed; homœopathy, as a reformed medical practice, was disseminated far and wide, growing in the midst of difficulties,—prospering, as the truth always does, by opposition, and heralded by persecution. Then came the cholera in 1831, that new scourge of humanity, but to the penetrating gaze of Hahnemann's sagacious mind, armed, as it now was, with the knowledge of remedies, worthy of the name, it came not as a bewildering novelty that struck dumb the oracle, but found the philosopher prepared [at once with a reply and a remedy. He waited not for its arrival at his own door, but sent forth his opinions and directions over the country, suggesting, from his intimate acquaintance with the virtues of drugs, the mode of treatment most likely to be successful, both for the cure of the disease, as well as for its prevention. His opinions proved perfectly correct, and we can testify to this moment, and even at the present

juncture, to the invaluable efficacy of his mode of treatment. There it is, just as he delivered it twenty years ago, *unaltered and unalterable*, the most certain and efficacious which has yet been suggested. Can this be said of any other of the various floating schemes which only tend to perplex the public at the present day? Alas, no! There is despair in the medical council, and division in their ranks! Hahnemann at last reached Paris, practiced, and died there. His was a master-mind, doubtless; there was a mass of brain which secured power to his conceptions, and force to his resolves, which enabled him to work on unsubdued by difficulties, and heedless of persecution, hoping and believing that some moment or other, the light would suddenly break in on him, and illumine all that was dark before, and so it was. Nature always unfolds her treasures to him who diligently seeks her, and follows on into her recesses with the lamp of faith. He did not want—

“The spur that the clear spirit doth raise
(That last infirmity of noble minds),
To scorn delights, and live laborious days.”

To have lived in advance of the age has been said to be the truest test of genius, and doubtless this was the case with Hahnemann. His mind was cast in the Hippocratic mould, and there is no physician since Hippocrates whose character has exhibited so much originality and foresight. The lamp of medicine and therapeutics may be said to have been lighted by Dr. Samuel Hahnemann. He was one of those men who exist but once in a century, who have been termed by Scaliger, “*homines centenarii*.” But, gentlemen, it is easy enough for us to travel over the career of a great man, and recount his triumphs, but who can estimate the self-sacrifice—the self-denials which they cost him? Years of toil and anxious thoughts are not to be weighed with the accuracy of merchandise. The testimony borne by Hufeland, Sigmond, Forbes, Mott, Urvin, and others, to the high character attained by Hahnemann as a scientific and accomplished physician are on record, and cannot be withdrawn; they are the honorable acknowledgements of his opponents, and not the enthusiastic plaudits of his admirers. Their value, then, is without alloy, and we may preserve them among the archives of the Homœopathic treasury. Having glanced at his character as a genius, and as a physician, let us for a moment

regard him as a philanthropist. His whole career was encircled with a halo—the *desire of benefitting humanity*. The love of his profession, and of science, was the delight he felt, that in proportion as he advanced them, he enlarged and extended the blessings of mankind. In his preface to “The Friend of Health,” after inculcating a popular knowledge of the laws of life and health, (Hygiene) he writes as follows: “Oh! that in the following pages I were so fortunate as to be able to contribute something to the happiness of mankind, if they would listen to the voice of a warm friend of his fellow creatures, as if it were the voice of a friend! In a few years—nay, days—and we have reached the termination of our earthly life; would that I could now and then prolong it but for a few hours—would that I could improve it only in a trivial thing.” Such sentiments as these could only emanate from a heart deeply imbued with the love of mankind. It has been often urged by those who delight in evincing, upon all occasions, their contempt for homœopathy, and are ever on the alert for an argument, *ad captandum*, in the absence of the only argument that ought to weigh with philosophical minds, namely, the having put the doctrines to the test,—that Hahnemann, and consequently his followers, have repudiated the value of physiology and pathology; the one, the operation of the natural laws in the economy in health; the other, the operation and results of morbid actions as witnessed in disease. This is one of the fallacies with which the world is cajoled by the enemies of homœopathy.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

CHRONIC RHEUMATISM.

BY DR. E. R. JOHNSTON.

REMEDIES USED.—*Sulphur, China, Causticum, Bryonia, Rhus toxicodendron, Rhododendron, Antimonium Crudum, with Aconite, Arnica, Belladonna, as inter current remedies.*

In the Autumn of 1853, about the middle of November, while purchasing a few vegetables at a stall or stand in Market street, my

attention was drawn to an apparently aged and almost helpless old man, seated near me, whom I found to be the husband of the woman who was then serving me. On instituting some inquiries respecting him, for his forlorn and wretched appearance excited my sympathy, I ascertained that he was the victim of Chronic Rheumatism, which had been fastened upon him for some nine or ten years; that he was unable to raise himself from his chair, without assistance; that he was a burden to himself and to his wife; that he was physically incapable of affording her any aid, other than remaining there through the day to watch that nothing was taken from the scanty supply scattered around the stall, the small profits of which constituted their only support. I also learned that he had been admitted in the spring of 1853, to the Blockley Hospital, and after remaining six weeks, was discharged as incurable. Since which time he had relinquished all hope of ever recovering his health.

Here then was a case calculated to excite both sympathy and commiseration. An approaching winter, with the hardships and privations incident to poverty, was staring them in the face, and the wife, even now, from her very limited resources, scarcely realizing sufficient for her own subsistence, was sharing the scanty fare with the paralyzed partner of her sorrows, who, though willing and anxious even, was not able to come to her relief.

Believing I could relieve him, I offered my services, of course gratuitously, which were readily accepted. The disease at the time of my first prescription, was confined principally to his right hip, left shoulder, back, and ankles. His person bent nearly double, was supported by two short canes, and by moving these forward, first one, then the other, he drew along his feet in a sliding manner, as he could not lift them from the floor. One peculiarity must not be forgotten. About once in three weeks, a hard bony incrustation near one-half an inch in thickness, formed on each heel, covering its entire surface, making it impossible to wear either boot or shoe, and so sore and painful as to extort his cries. This incrustation would at length crack and peel off, leaving a very thin and tender new skin beneath, so tender as not to admit of pressure for three or four days afterwards. The formation of this incrustation was entirely cured by the use of *Antimonium crudum*. My first prescription in this case was Sulphur, 30, and at the second interview, one week afterwards, a change was perceptible; the form was more erect;

and though still unable to lift up his feet, he moved them with greater ease. The course of remedies used, and the reasons which might have led to the administration of each, it is not my purpose at this time to detail. I will only observe, that in all cases, I endeavored to administer each remedy according to some well recognised homœopathic adaptation; as for instance, *Rhododendron* was given when the patient complained of being much worse, in cold, damp weather, and at the approach of a storm; *Bryonia*, often for cough, and chest affections; *Rhus*, violent pains in the hip, with stiffness, worse at rest, or after resting.

Causticum.—Pains in the ankles, in the bones, and in the joints, especially when walking, not yielding to the other remedies.

It is now eighteen months since I first saw Michael at the stall in Market street. Yesterday *he brought home my marketing*, and with buoyancy in his step, and joy beaming in his eye, he exclaimed, “please tell the doctor that I have thrown away my other stick,” (the first having been laid aside in six months,) “and can now walk as well as any man.” Not having seen Michael for two or three weeks, I was induced to step to the door to test the truth of this assertion, and to my surprise, beheld him with form erect, with a hurried tread, and an elastic step, wending his way back to his now *well provided* stall, free from all pain, with feet to walk, and hands to work, and a heart full of gratitude to a benign Providence who had blessed the means wherewith he had been made whole.

He whom, from his broken-down, attenuated and crippled form, in the fall of 1853, I actually supposed covered with the frost of sixty winters, now in the spring of 1855, stands before me the hale, hearty, robust man of forty years. What has wrought this change? To whom, under the smiles of our Great Benefactor, are due our thanks and our gratitude for such achievements. Oh! ever venerated shade of our departed Hahnemann, if thy spirit be near us, or if thou art permitted to take cognizance of the things of earth, with what unbounded raptures dost thou behold these multiplied proofs of the truthfulness of that law, which it was thy privilege and good fortune first to apply, in the great business of healing the sick, and which has rendered thy name forever immortal.

Physicians, you who may meet with cases similar to the above, shrink not from them, but persevere—study the case well, and if you apply the right remedies, and the right potency, you will suc-

ceed; but one other thing is essential—you *must have perfect control of your patient*; all your commands must be strictly complied with. This case, 'tis true, was in the humbler walks of life, and perhaps a more ready compliance with directions was secured than might be done with those surrounded with luxuries, to whom abstinence would be tantamount to the surrender of even life itself—to such, homœopathy is of little service—vexations and disappointments are the inevitable results, if the effort to improve their condition be attempted.

This case affords encouragement also to those in a like condition. Think not that one month, or two, or three, or even six months, is a long time to be under homœopathic treatment, very possible your improvement may be slow, but if you persevere, you are sure to reap a reward in the perfect restoration to health.

REASONS WHY MEDICINES SHOULD BE USED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW

“Similia Similibus Curantur.”

BY SILAS SWIFT BROOKS, PHILADELPHIA.

It is clearly the duty of every practitioner of medicine, to be ever on the alert to *learn* and to *use* the best means of curing his patients with the least possible expenditure of the vital principle of the living organism.

With such feelings and desires, constantly uppermost in his mind, he will carefully examine any new mode of practice, or new remedy with particular interest, as soon as it may be presented to his notice. And to do the subject full justice, he will examine it in the special manner recommended by its author or introducer.

Every conscientious practitioner attends to these matters—as far as he is able—without interfering with his more immediate duties.

So it is, and so it has been in the examinations of Homœopathy. But, how contradictory are the results! Some who examine commend, while others condemn it.

At first, the number commending was necessarily very small;

now, it is large, so that in taking a comprehensive view of the whole medical world, it will appear evident to all unprejudiced observers, that there are two large classes of equally conscientious, talented, zealous, and high-minded medical men, in almost every community;—the one Allopathic, or “*soi-disant*,” regular, and the other Homœopathic.* Showing conclusively, that since the introduction of Homœopathy, the numbers of approvers is increasing.

But whence this difference of opinion; or why do the Doctors disagree concerning its merits?

There are various causes.

One very common ground for its condemnation by many practitioners who have been taught to view it as nothing, is the very imperfect manner in which they study it. Their preceptors and professors have taken great pains in their teachings to make it appear contemptible; hence the mind of the pupil is prejudiced against it, before it is studied by him. And the consequence is, that he scarcely thinks it worth his while to study it at all, inasmuch as his mind rests under the impression that his predecessors,—men of ability and learning—have already examined and pronounced it worthless.

Perhaps he would not study at all, were it not, that after his graduation and intercourse with society, he is met by inquiries from the people, as to the nature and value of Homœopathy? Then it is—that feeling the necessity of being able to say to his friends “I have studied it,”—he procures and reads some work or works upon the subject. But the greater number of those who read these works under such circumstances have prejudged the whole matter; and read merely to facilitate their talking learnedly in opposition.

Candor prompts the writer to say, that such was the case with himself, for some years after his graduation. He saw no value in it, because his mind was unwilling to enter largely into its details and dig to the bottom.

This idea suggests the query—whether it is wise for Homœopathic medical students to encourage, by their presence and their means, the injurious influences which Allopathic Colleges endeavor to exert against Homœopathy?

Though the professors in these schools may be honest in their

* It is estimated that there are between fifteen hundred and two thousand Homœopathic Physicians in the United States.

views, it does appear like a suicidal course, for those who intend to practice Homœopathy, to sustain schools of this character; especially since there are other colleges where the like injurious influence is not cultivated, and the medical instruction equally as thorough and extensive.

Nay, it is evidently for their interest, to attend lectures only where that great law of nature, by which they intend to *cure* their patients, is most thoroughly expounded and deferentially treated; and that too in connection with all the branches usually taught.

Other denunciators, who would not be disposed to confess that their minds had been biased in their education, have read, and as they say, examined, to a sufficient extent, the *principles* of Homœopathy, and conceiving these principles to be unfounded, condemn the whole superstructure.

It is probable, also, that many conscientious, charitable and zealous practitioners have found their business engagements too urgent to permit their devoting a sufficient amount of attention to the subject.

Other duties have laid nearer to them than that of the study of Homœopathy. Hence their examinations have been too superficial to enable them to find in it much of value, and having learned that others have condemned it, they too, conclude that it is the best disposition they can make of it; and so tossing it aside, would feign assure themselves and their patients that the use of it is only trifling with disease.

There have probably been many young physicians who would have properly tried and adopted it, were it not, that they had been restrained by the fear of offending their older brethren. There is not a doubt that this is painfully so! and it is indeed a shame to an honorable profession, that its members are not allowed to do their duty, without incurring the censure, obloquy and persecution of their fellow members who do not entertain the same views. It is a kind of servile bondage to which the younger men are subjected; hence, they too must join in the hue and cry against Homœopathy.

Again, there are many proscribers who will declare that they have tried Homœopathy by using the medicines for months or perhaps for years. But as it would be improper to ascribe to them dullness of apprehension, one is forced to conclude that there was

a want of application—either to the study of pathogenesis generally, or particularly—in the affiliation of remedies to the diseases they had to treat.

It is believed that most of those who oppose it would confess, if they would speak, that some such loose mode of proceeding was the one pursued by them in their study of this important subject.

M. Andral's proceedings at La Pitié, in Paris, were glaringly defective in the application of the remedy, and the *selection* of cases, which should have been taken indiscriminately, and the number of cases experimented upon.

There must have been a fatal defect in some part of all their examinations; for the defect does not exist in the great principle propounded by Hahnemann.

But none of the above modes of examination has been countenanced or practised by the successful Homœopath.

He requires a careful study of the symptoms produced by medicines upon the healthy constitution, a study which demands time, labour and memory; and then a judicious use of that knowledge in administering the appropriate medicines to patients who are afflicted with diseases having like symptoms. Such a study consumes years instead of months; and if it be entered upon and perseveringly continued in the right spirit, the great principle of "*Similia Similibus Curantur*" will be too clearly seen ever to be lost sight of again.

It is an old saying that "truth lies at the bottom of a well."

Homœopathy of itself requires more prolonged and diligent study than is required by the ordinary curriculum of our colleges before graduation. And it is only after thorough study and practice, as advised above, that any man, whatever may be his talents and acquirements in other respects, is justified in proscribing it;—nay, he has no right to discard it, before it has been so examined.

It was after a similarly arduous manner, that the great introducer of Homœopathy proceeded. Having conceived the idea that there was such a law as "*Similia Similibus Curantur*," he set himself diligently at work to ascertain if it were so. And after a series of years occupied in close observation and study his mind became convinced of its existence; and he has since given abundant proof of it too; to the entire satisfaction of those who are willing to follow him in detail through a tithe of the labor he has performed,

and the demonstrations which have been published by himself and others.

Believing that it was only necessary to understand the principles of Homœopathy, the writer gave it but little further attention, and satisfied himself with a casual observation of its progress during the first few years of his professional career.

But the occasional notice he did give, led him to think that its representatives were increasing in number, and generally actively employed. Indeed he was often forced to observe its advancement. For however distasteful to his feelings, he was frequently compelled to hear its praises uttered by persons who had either witnessed or experienced its effects. Not unfrequently did he meet with whole families who had used no other medicine, or followed no other than Homœopathic medical counsel for a series of years: some three, some five, some ten, and a number for twenty years and upwards, and these almost universally expressing entire satisfaction as to the results. And many were so enraptured with it, that they thought too much could not be said in its behalf. The frequent recurrence of such testimony, gradually increasing, at last caused him to yield, mentally, to the idea that patients *did recover* while under the care of Homœopathic Physicians.

But it seemed too much to believe that it was by the aid of medicines homœopathically administered; and for a considerable time he entertained the view that there must be deception sometimes practised, especially where severe diseases were controlled. This impression, however was never satisfactory, and on considering the moral character of some homœopaths whom he knew, he became certain that such a view was unjust and should be renounced.

Being thus driven to the belief that cures did occur, and that deception was *not* practised, the next conclusion was, that there must be something in or about Homœopathy that makes it really efficient, useful and satisfactory; and, that, as a conscientious practitioner, he ought to give it a more thorough examination; to endeavor to learn and to use whatever he might find in it of value. Also, that he must no longer malign or condemn it in the unmeasured terms he had formerly done; for it appeared probable, that, after all, it might be one of the best friends of humanity. At all events, he must know more about it.

For years before resorting to Homœopathy, no small influence

was at work to make him dissatisfied with the Allopathic mode of using medicines. Because this mode is attended with many evils. It is a common understanding, that when medicines are so employed, the patient must be made worse by the medicine, before he can recover.

There must be produced a medical disease. Indeed, Perturbation ! Perturbation is sometimes the motto, or law of cure with some practitioners.

Though a medical disease is not universally produced, it is so generally the case, that most patients expect it, when they apply to the allopath. All, I might say, all acknowledge it.

An active man, busily engaged in important matters, on feeling ill, and applying to an allopath, will most frequently be obliged to lie by and suffer—for a few hours at least—on account of the disturbing effects of the medicine.

This certainly will be the case, if he receives an emetic, a cathartic, a venesection, a cupping, a blister, or a narcotic.

And after the first unpleasant effects of the medicine have passed off, he experiences a feebleness which renders his system liable to being attacked by cold or other morbid agents; and his digestive organs being thus enfeebled by the violence of the remedy, more time is still lost before he can recover, and go on with his accustomed activity.

Therefore, truth requires the assertion, that the Allopathic mode of treating disease, is most generally an evil.

Every doctor, and every patient who has taken much Allopathic medicine for acute disease, must acknowledge this. It is so much of an evil, that many individuals shrink from its use and endure suffering a long time before resorting to it; so long, in some cases, that the disease requires much more treatment than would have been needed in the earlier stages; and occasionally life is sacrificed in this way, by a dread of the evils of medicines. A melancholy reality !

Persons of reason always accept the less of two evils that may be presented for their endurance; and dreading death, or much suffering, as a greater, fly to medicine as a less.

Now to the mind of the author, this always seemed to be an unfortunate accompaniment of Allopathic treatment, and he doubts not that it has so appeared to every practitioner. He never could feel

reconciled to it, though he practiced allopathically more than a dozen years.

But with Homœopathy—no medical disease is produced; the patient beginning to improve from the moment the first dose is taken; hence, there is seldom or never any evil attending the use of medicines in accordance with its laws. The business man is not compelled to lie by merely on account of the medicine he has taken, but can go on with his exercise, and gradually, though speedily, recover his health.

In casually or superficially reading Homœopathic works on practice one finds so much claimed for infinitesimal doses and credence so much called into exercise, that if the dose only, be taken as the ground for judging of the merits of Homœopathy, he will be ready to conclude with the late Prof. Chapman, "that it is one of the greatest insults to common sense that has ever been invented by man;" and further, that to become a believer in its efficacy, he must, on that subject at least, entirely sacrifice his reason. But upon further study, it will be found, that the size of the dose "is no essential constituent of Homœopathic treatment, the most essential principle being, the proper selection of the remedy according to the law of similarity, as shown by the character of the medicine in its physiological and toxicological provings."

The examination and test of this law, then, was required of the student. But it could only be done efficiently in the manner before described.

But to the long standing practitioner of Allopathy two great obstacles interposed.

The first was the large amount of time, labor and memory it would require, and the second, was the certain incurrence of displeasure, slander and condemnation, from those physicians who had heretofore associated with him on friendly terms.

The first obstacle was cheerfully encountered, but the second could not be overcome without much regret of the consequences that would follow.

Yet, through the fear of that Great Master who makes his yoke easy to the obedient, he was enabled to proceed in the work which appeared to him to be required at his hands. And it further seemed to him possible, that a humble and faithful execution of his duty in this respect, might eventually prove useful—even to those who

may at first be offended. After much hesitation, he yielded to his convictions of duty, and procured the counsel and aid of an established homœopath, in good standing among his brethren.

In the commencement of the study, it was merely intended to cull whatever might appear useful, and not to adopt it so fully as he has done since understanding its nature and learning the ease and efficiency of its action.

As the study advanced, the trial of medicines was commenced, first upon himself, and then in slight ailments on his patients ; but the first essays in this matter were without much faith in the value of infinitesimal doses.

But as recoveries speedily occurred, disbelief gave way to agreeable surprise. From the first to the sixth dilutions were mostly used ; and many has been the time, on giving them to his friends and taking them himself, that each would look at the other with an incredulous smile at what appeared to them as foolishness. As success followed success however, confidence arose and grew, until the medicine was administered in important cases, where, in the old system of medication, large and thorough doses would have been indispensable. And never will he forget his anxiety, to learn the result of a few of the first of these cases. But as they were favorable, further proceeding on the same plan was justifiable.

During this time a constantly recurring question arose—as to whether the success could be attributed to the infinitesimal doses.

It appeared almost impossible ; and the old argument presented itself that it would answer just as well to give any inert article.

But having been trained to think that such cases required efficient means, the mind could not be persuaded to believe it right to do nothing ; and as a trial of the expectant plan did not appear to be demanded of him, he felt most justified in following a course which others had found successful.

To those who favor the convenient theory of the expectant plan, because, as they say, most acute diseases spontaneously terminate favorably ; a reference may be made to the able exposition of the results of four modes of managing acute diseases—namely, by bleeding, by Tartar emetic, by the powers of nature, and by Homœopathy, which is given by Prof. Henderson of Edinburgh, in his reply to Dr. Simpson.

In comparing the results of Pneumonia (inflammation of the

lungs), as published by Dietl, physician to one of the large Allopathic hospitals of Vienna, the average duration of the cases treated by venesection was found to be 35 days, 11.1 days on the subsidence of the fever; of those treated by Tartar emetic, 28.9 days; 9.2 days to subsidence of the fever; of those treated by the expectant method, 28 days; 9.1 days to subsidence of fever; whilst the average duration of 43 cases treated by Homœopathy, was only 11 $\frac{2}{3}$ days, 8 days to subsidence of the fever. "This very remarkable result," says Henderson, "places beyond all rational doubt, the claim of Homœopathy to a high degree of active curative power in Pneumonia. The cases under the expectant treatment lasted on an average, 16 days longer than the Homœopathic cases."

Again, the *mortality*, as well as the duration of these cases, shows a vast superiority of the Homœopathic over the Allopathic, and 1.7 per cent. over the expectant plan of treatment.

Dietl says that—

By Venesection in 85 cases, 17 died, or	. . .	20.4 per cent.
By Tartar Emetic in 106 cases, 22 died, or	. . .	20.7 per cent.
By the Expectant Plan in 189 cases, 14 died, or		7.4 per cent.

Whilst Tessier, physician to one of the ordinary public hospitals of Paris, by homœopathically treating 50 cases, lost but 3, or 6 per cent.

According to one of Louis' reports, he bled in 78 cases and lost 28, or nearly 33 per cent.

In a subsequent report of 29 cases, selected and treated in same way, he lost 4, or 14 per cent.

Boillaud, bled in 75 cases and lost ten, or 14 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent.

Dr. Routh, who has shown himself particularly inimical to Homœopathy, states that in the different Homœopathic hospitals there have been treated 783 cases of Pneumonia, of which 45 died, or 5.7 per cent., and that 1522 cases treated allopathically, were followed by 373 deaths, or 24 per cent.

Thus it is proved, that on the score of mortality, Homœopathy is five times more successful than Louis' first cases treated by venesection; four times more successful than the mass of cases treated allopathically; and one and seven-tenths per cent. better than the expectant plan.

In the duration of the disease, those homœopathically treated re-

covered in a shorter period of time than those by venesection, by 23 days ! Than those by the expectant plan by 16 days !

These results are indeed remarkable, and almost astonishing ; yet they are all well authenticated, and as deserving of confidence as any other human testimony.

Yet the expectant plan appears very plausible, for several reasons.

First.—Because, in the time of Stahl, it was found that disease did yield, to a very considerable extent, by “waiting.”

Secondly.—It has been shown in the old mode of practice, that

“doing nothing often has prevailed,
When ten physicians have prescribed and failed.”

Thirdly.—The enlightened races of mankind have been so accustomed to lean upon medicine, that in many cases, an inert remedy, while it satisfied the patient, would succeed as well as, or even better than, the disturbing remedies of the old practice.

Notwithstanding all the proof that doing nothing answers a good purpose, the homœopaths, so far as known by the author, could never be prevailed upon to trust to the expectant plan.

But supposing, for argument sake, that the use of medicines in homœopathic doses be doing nothing, is it right to inflict an *evil* upon this “brittle casket” of ours, when the useful end or cure can be as well and as quickly accomplished by doing nothing ?

“For nature then has room to work her way.”

The allopath sees and acknowledges that patients do recover while being treated homœopathically ; but asserts that homœopathy only amused the patient, while nature wrought the cure.

Hence, he virtually allows, that in a large majority of cases, no medicine at all is needed.

Then, if no medicine is needed, why does he invariably give it ? Why does he compel his confiding patients to purchase and to swallow an evil which he allows to be unnecessary, and that too, always when he is called ?

If he believes what he says of homœopathy, he ought to say to his patient, you are ill, it is true, but have patience, and you'll soon be well. Live thus and so, and let medicine alone, for it is an

evil, and I must not give you any, for it is not needed. Such language would be consistent, candid and honorable.

But the truth is, that those allopaths who assert that no cures occur by the aid of homœopathic treatment, except those in which the ordinary doses have been employed, know not homœopathy, or they merely express their malicious feelings.

In infinitesimal doses, the atoms of the medicine may be as large as one of the primordeal cells; and who can tell the nature of the action that may be produced in that cell by the contact of one atom of the medicine? Or even if the atomic size of the medicine be a thousand times smaller than the cell, it would be very unphilosophical to assert that the action of the cell, or its nucleus, may not be modified by the medicine.

Disease may be defined, a deranged action of the ultimate life-cell; and the object of the physician should be, so to modify the deranged action as to produce a healthy one.

If one cell is induced to return to its healthy course by one atom of the medicine, the second or third atom is superfluous. One cell having been restored, communicates a like restorative process to its neighbors of the same organization, until, like a "little leaven, it leavens the whole lump," and thus the whole organ or tissue, which is made up of such cells, is restored to its normal action; "*natura in minimis maxima est.*"—Nature is greatest in little things.

In the great bulk of disease which the writer has encountered during the last two years, relief has speedily and satisfactorily followed the homœopathic treatment. And he would now feel self-reproved, were he to withhold from those who trust in him, this mode of treatment on which he would himself rely in the management of his own ailments.

In many cases of dysentery and diarrhœa, the sudden improvement that has followed the use of the third dilution of Soluble, or Black Oxide of Mercury, or of the same dilution of Nitric Acid, has caused astonishment and pleasure to the doctor, and called forth gratitude from the patient. The amendment was as speedy as he ever experienced from Calomel and Opium, Dover's Powder, or astringents, without their evil effects.

Then the great superiority of these infinitesimals became strikingly prominent in these points, viz.:—the system of the patient suffered none from the effects of Opium, which all know to be in-

separable from its exhibition in ordinary doses. None from the effects of mercury, which are so well known. None from the nauseous Castor-oil, or other laxatives, with their painful gripings. Nor any maternal tears or paternal anxieties in persuading and forcing their beloved offspring to swallow the offensive powder or draught.

The homœopathic treatment of Pleurisy, Pneumonia, and Pleuropneumonia, has proved nearly as prompt and useful, without the almost homicidal blood-letting nearly to fainting; the painful nausea of Tartrate of Antimony and Potassa, or the prolonged effects of Mercury to the extent of touching the gums; and the final slow recovery. Instead of all these, which every humane physician must have felt a strong desire to avoid, the author has used the second and third dilution of Bryonia Alba, which acted about as speedily in the removal of pains in pleurisy, as do cups upon the chest. Aconite for the control of fever, and Phosphorus for the pneumonia, bronchitis, and cough.

For nausea and vomiting, Ipecacuanha, or Tartar Emetic were found to be followed by relief. Cholera Morbus speedily commenced improvement after Arsenicum Album in the third trituration. Arsenicum Veratrum and Cuprum were the main remedies in a severe case of Asiatic Cholera, that had proceeded nearly to the stage of collapse; but which recovered more speedily than any case of like severity that occurred to the author in 1849 or 1854, in both of which seasons he was in active practice here, and at the former period as a physician to the Philadelphia Dispensary.

In some cases of cerebral inflammation, Aconite, Belladonna, and Bryonia were given in the second and third dilution, and succeeded by restoration to health in perhaps less than the ordinary length of time; and all were exceedingly pleased and impressed with the ease by which health was obtained, when a comparison was made with the old mode of bleeding, cupping, purging, blistering, and mercurializing.

Some cases in which allopathy was followed by almost hopeless results, and were given up in the mind as probably fatal, soon manifested signs of improvement after homœopathic management was commenced, and finally recovered entirely.

For what are ordinarily called bilious derangements, where the Blue Mass and laxatives, or anti-bilious pills, with their attendant

evils are commonly employed, *Nux vomica* or *Mercury*, in their third dilution, have been followed by as quick and satisfactory results as were the former articles.

As further details would probably be unsatisfactory, the writer would merely say that he has treated homœopathically upwards of three hundred cases, of the ordinary complaints that have fallen under his care during the last two years, in this city. He has kept an account of the results of two hundred and seventy-five. In two hundred and fifty-three, they have been decidedly favorable to homœopathy; no other medicine being needed, and recovery taking place in less than the ordinary period of time; and that recovery being followed by a more vigorous condition of the system than when the old method was employed. Therefore, in most instances, so far as known, the patients their friends, and the doctor have all been satisfied.

In but twenty-two cases did homœopathy seem of doubtful efficacy. For this, there are various reasons, but mainly, it is believed, on account of the inexperienced hand by which it was administered; for that hand has more success now, than at the beginning of the investigation. So great is the present success, that confidence has become very deep. For a long time at first, faith kept herself so much in the back-ground, that he was not encouraged thereby; and he was sometimes tempted to think it not worth while to use one remedy in preference to another, but observation soon taught him that the more care he took to make his remedy correspond to the symptoms, the greater was his success.

Though he did not treat all his cases homœopathically, he did not select them for this treatment. His desire was to test homœopathy as much as possible to the satisfaction of his own mind; hence he so treated, as they occurred, nearly all in which his memory assured him of the appropriate remedy.

They all had that degree of severity in which he would have felt himself called upon to prescribe some remedy from the apothecary, had he been acting on the allopathic plan. And in most of the cases, *Mercury* or *Opium*, or *Dover's powder*, or oil, &c., with an occasional venesection, a cupping or a blister, would have been considered indispensable.

Though the effects of homœopathy in these cases may be doubted,

by some minds, there are points connected with the results which the writer feels he can assert to be indisputably the truth.

These are—that his patients so treated, escaped much expense of money, much nausea, much vomiting, much catharsis, much pain, much dyspepsia, much reduction of strength by the remedy, and much loss of time; and finally, most of them are now more healthy than they would have been, had the allopathic mode been pursued.

As the introduction of the results of the homœopathic treatment in all cases of disease, by other homœopathic physicians would extend this communication beyond convenient limits, it is proposed to call attention only to those of Yellow fever and cholera.

In 1853, when the Yellow fever was so extensively fatal in the South, Doctors Holcomb and Davis, of Natchez, treated homœopathically, five hundred and fifty-five cases of this disease, of which only thirty-three died, or 5.95 per cent.

Dr. Jewell of Philadelphia, reports that in the same year, forty-four cases occurred in that city, which were treated in the allopathic manner, and thirty-four died, or 77.27 per cent.

It is estimated that the allopaths in New Orleans lost from twenty to thirty per cent.

In *Cholera*, too, the results are equally remarkable.

Dr. Wilkinson, of London, shows by tables from various sources, that in the private practice of allopathic physicians, three thousand one hundred and seven cases of Asiatic Cholera were followed by one thousand two hundred and ninety-one deaths, making more than thirty-nine per cent.

While one thousand two hundred and seventy-five cases of the same disease that occurred in the private practice of homœopathic physicians, resulted in but one hundred and sixty-nine deaths, or nine per cent.

In hospital practice, of one thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine cases allopathically treated, one thousand and ninety-seven died, fifty-six per cent. Of seven hundred and ninety-five cases homœopathically treated, two hundred and fifty-eight died, not thirty-three per cent.

These statistical comparisons of the results of the allopathic and homœopathic treatment of many other particular diseases, are

abundantly furnished in homœopathic works ; and in every instance fully exhibit the superiority of homœopathy.

Now, after so much testimony and experience, the author feels himself called upon to believe that the law of similarity is the best one on which to treat every kind and grade of disease.

But as the knowledge of this law is still in its infancy, there are some rare conditions in which our ignorance will not enable us to apply it.

Under such circumstances it would clearly be a duty to employ the next best means of cure within our power.

For instance, in a sudden attack of apoplexy, the present condition of his knowledge might cause the writer to take blood from his patient. Or, when serious mischief had occurred from repletion with indigestible articles of diet, an active cathartic might be deemed indispensable ; or, in cases of poisoning, an emetic, with the appropriate antidote in corresponding doses, would be unhesitatingly administered.

As independence of thought and action is the right of every man, the medical practitioner is at liberty to use whatever means he may deem appropriate in the cure of his patients ; hence the author does not feel himself bound to use homœopathy exclusively, under all circumstances though he gives the law "*similia similibus curantur*," the decided preference over all other laws as a guide in practice.

And he now wishes to express that he places a high value upon the knowledge he has acquired of the use of remedies in the allopathic mode, and that he *feels* and *cultivates* a deep sense of obligation and gratitude towards his former teachers, and the promoters of medical science and art.

For many years past the allopaths have been constantly reiterating, in a very authoritative manner, that homœopathy is "dying out" in every place, especially in its mother country ; while the homœopaths as confidently declare, that it is more alive than ever, and daily acquiring new life, even in its "father-land."

Now these statements are *ex parte* on each side, but observation and the accounts furnished by the journals of the two parties, have made it plainly to appear to the writer, that homœopathy is growing, in expanse, vivacity and strength.

And with such results as have now in good faith been shown to follow its employment, growth, active and vigorous, must continue,

until it shall become as universally acknowledged as is the Christian religion, and considered next to it in the blessing it confers upon mankind.

As such a change in the practice of medicine must occur, it is only a question of time when it shall take place. The leaven that is now at work in the minds of the people, will continue its transforming process till the whole lump is leavened. For it is very evident that where men and women observe their neighbors and friends do recover under its benign influence, they will not always be persuaded to despise it. And that the mother who observes the ease and efficiency of its action upon the children of others, will not be long in demanding its aid for her own offspring.

From all that has now been said, it seems fair to conclude—

Firstly, That every kind and every degree of curable or relievable disease gives place to health and comfort, while medicines are used homœopathically.

Secondly, That patients so treated are exempt from much evil inseparable from allopathic treatment.

Thirdly. That homœopathy has been condemned without proper examination.

Fourthly. That it has been steadily spreading itself and its influence, from the period of its origin to the present time.

Fifthly and lastly. That it will continue to spread, till it shall become the prevailing mode of practice in every part of the enlightened world.

REPORT OF THE "AMERICAN PROVER'S UNION,"

TO THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMŒOPATHY AT ITS MEETING IN
JUNE, 1855.

As it was thought proper that the "American Institute of Homœopathy,"—representing as it does the great body of homœopathic physicians in the United States,—should be informed of the progress of the "American Prover's Union;" at the adjourned meeting of that body, held May 31st, 1855, the secretary was instructed to prepare and send a report to the Institute, on behalf of the "Union," giving the principal items of general interest which have transpired

since its organization. As a committee appointed last year by the Union made a report to the Institute on the objects, uses and general character of the society, it will be unnecessary now to say anything on these points.

On the 10th of August, 1853, a meeting of homœopathic physicians, eleven in number, was held at the house of Dr. Hering, when the preliminary steps for the formation of a Prover's Union, were taken, and a committee appointed to draught a constitution and by-laws. On the 27th of the same month the constitution was fully adopted and signed by nine persons; since that time the society has been gradually increasing until at present it numbers seventy-seven members, besides some foreign correspondents who are virtually such. At the last meeting of the society in April, a proposition made by the "German Prover's Union," that "the remedies proved by one society should also be proved by the other and the provings exchanged," was acceded to, so that now there exists in effect, a union of the German and American proving societies, which will no doubt much increase the usefulness of both.

As soon as the society was fully organized, a committee was appointed to report on the best mode of proving medicines; this committee in due time, laid before the society a report of the most valuable suggestions in relation to the mode of proving medicines, this is herewith submitted, together with other documents of interest. Shortly after this report another committee was appointed to "make arrangements for procuring a device for a certificate of membership and a seal for the society," in due time this committee also performed its duty satisfactorily, and the society is now able to furnish to its members "a certificate," very tastefully executed on parchment; at the top, the title of the society, below this "a medallion head" of Hahnemann, surrounded by a wreath composed of several plants, proven by him, (a more particular description of which may be found in the Homœopathic News, No. 5,) below the motto of the society, "*Fiat Experimentum in Corpore Sano*," and below this the body of the certificate itself, which is signed by a committee chosen by the society for that purpose.

The regular provings made by the society according to the requirements of its constitution have been two, that of Ferrum metall., and that of Merc. protiod, besides which, however, many others have been voluntarily handed in to the society or read at its meetings, in

whole or part, thus, *Asterias* and *Anagallis arvensis*, by Dr. Grunther, of Milwaukie; *Agrostemma*, *githago* and *Elaps corallinum*, by Dr. Lippe; *Hydrophobium* by Dr. J. R. Coxe, Jr., (also communicated to the Institute), *Mygale avicularia* by Dr. J. G. Howard; *Rhodium* by Dr. J. G. Pehrson, all of Philadelphia; *Osmium*, by Dr. Liedbeck, of Upsala, Sweden; and *Hippomanes* and *Glonoine* by Dr. Emil Tietze, Germany. Dr. F. Campos, of Norfolk, Va., also has favored the society with translations from the Portuguese of some portions of the repertory used in Brazil. The remedy which has just been chosen for the next proving by the society, is *Colchicum Autumnale*, which has been already proven by the German Prover's Union.

At the meeting of the society in January last, a communication from the Homœopathic Medical Society of Massachusetts, relative to the centennial celebration of Hahnemann's birth-day was read. This suggestion in relation to getting up a celebration—for which the Union and the homœopathic physicians of this city and vicinity are greatly indebted to the Massachusetts Society,—was what first moved the members of this society to act in the matter; meetings of the homœopathic physicians of Philadelphia, were called by the Prover's Union, a committee of arrangements was appointed, which reported to the general meetings held from time to time, and on the 10th of April, 1855, a celebration took place which will long be remembered by those who participated, and which certainly produced an impression favorable to homœopathy in this community and also abroad. An account of it was published, *with the speeches in full* in the New York "Evening Post," and in the Philadelphia Journal of Homœopathy, notice was also taken of the celebration by the daily Journals here. A short time after the celebration, a general meeting of the homœopathic physicians of Philadelphia was held, when it was resolved, to print an account of it with the corrected speeches in pamphlet form for present distribution, and also in that of an annual or album—as the committee might determine—for the future. Neither one of the committees charged with the duty of bringing out these publications has yet completed its task, and therefore, nothing definite in relation to them (the publications) can be now laid before the Institute, but it may be stated, that it was the intention of the meeting that these publications should be widely spread, and it is to be hoped, that when they are ready to be laid

before the public, the members of the Institute will aid by their subscriptions this project.

Meetings of the "Union," or rather of the central portion of it which is in Philadelphia, are held about once a month, are very well attended by the resident members, and generally are very pleasant and instructive, on account of the conversations which take place between the members in regard to their experience in the treatment of prevailing diseases, or in regard to some new remedies which have been found curative, &c., &c. The communications which have been received from abroad, have also been in many cases, of a very interesting character. The correspondence of the society is extensive; although responses to the communications of the corresponding secretaries have not always been so numerous as might have been desirable, yet communication has been made over every part of the globe, (except, perhaps China) where a homœopathic physician could be heard of and many answers favorable to our undertaking have been received. The society has correspondents in England, several parts of Germany, in France, Sweden, Cuba, Barbadoes, and perhaps two or three other places not now in memory.

From the foregoing particulars it may be perceived, that the state of the Prover's Union is at present a flourishing one, and that its prospects for usefulness are great: as it has for an object *the re-proving of remedies, of which at least some symptoms have been published*, it must commend itself to *all* true homœopaths, as it is not liable to the reproach which has sometimes been cast upon provings, or rather the provers of *new* remedies, that "they only tended to render the practice of homœopathy more obscure by increasing the number of its remedies," on the contrary, this society, by re-proving remedies, will aid in bringing out their characteristic symptoms and thus make the practice of homœopathy more clear. We would therefore respectfully suggest, that the Institute pay some attention to this society, by recommending its members to give it their support, and join in re-proving those drugs in our *materia medica* which may be chosen by it. Many members of the Institute have already joined and are active members, yet, perhaps if the attention of the whole society, (the Institute) is more particularly directed to this subject, many will join who have not hitherto thought of the importance of doing so.

Hoping your deliberations may be of a character useful to the advance of homœopathy, we respectfully submit the above report.

D. COWLEY, M. D.

Secretary of the American Prover's Union,
Philada., June 4th, 1855.

No. 100 South Ninth Street.

REPORT OF HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.

IN THE PROTESTANT HALF ORPHAN ASYLUM, NEW YORK,

To the American Institute of Homœopathy.

OCCUPYING the position of physician to a public institution, I am able to contribute to the Institute something farther to the accumulating mass of facts which show the relative value of homœopathic, as compared with allopathic treatment.

In the following asylums in the city of New York, under allopathic treatment, there were for the year 1854,

	Average No.	Whole No.	Deaths	Rate of Mortality
New York Orphan Asylum, . . .	175	209	0	
Roman Catholic Asylums, . . .	728	1042	9	119,77
Leake and Watts' Orphan Asylum, . .	199	283	6	43,83
Colored Orphan Asylum, . . .	279	403	23	17,52
Total for 1854,	1381	1937	38	50,97
Reported in 1853,	1359	1794	27	66
Total for 2 years,	2740	3731	65	

Under Homœopathic treatment:

Protestant half Orphan Asylum, 1854, .	195	257	0
Reported in 1853,	194	275	0
Total for 2 years,	389	532	0

In the Protestant Half Orphan Asylum there have been five consecutive years without a death.

The Colored Orphan Asylum now has an hospital department and receives diseased children,

B. F. BOWERS.

124 Bleeker Street, June 4th, 1855.

“THE HOMŒOPATHIC NEWS:”—ITS CRITIQUES AND ITS COLLEGE, REVIEWED.

BY JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M. D.

“Domesticum bellum manet : intus insidiæ sunt : intus inclusum periculum est : intus est hostis.”—CICERO IN CATILINAM.

AT the first dawn of human society, whether in the midst of interminable plains, or dense forests, whilst yet household gods sheltered only in the cave and the thicket, the echo of the deepest and most withering anathema of the human tongue, resounding from glen to glen, from rock to rock, over land and sea, through all the vicissitudes of human progress, in peace and in war, by day and night, fell upon the ears of the spy, the renegade, the betrayer of his trust, the compromiser of his friends!—How deep and solemn this echo when the ocean-taught orator gathers, as it were, all its terrible malignities from the moan of every wave, the murmur of every breeze, and the dash of every surge against his native shore, and in one focal blaze pours them upon the heads of the Macedonian and his accomplices! Still gathering intensity down the way of Time it reverberates from the walls of the Roman Senate House, when the man of Arpinum pronounced in the ears of Catiline—“*Hic, hi sunt, nostro in numero, patres conscripti, in hoc orbis terræ sanctissimo gravissimoque consilio, qui de meo, nostrumque omnium interitu, qui de hujus urbis, atque adeo orbis terrarum exitio cogitent!*” (Here, conscript fathers, within these walls, and in this assembly, the most awful and venerable upon earth, there are men who meditate my ruin and yours, the destruction of this city, and therefore of the world itself.)—Rising upon broader pinions and taking a more distant flight, this bird of fearful omen lights upon the head of Him who last attempted to give a secret death-wound to young Freedom, when she rose majestic and asserted her eternal birthright amid the mighty woods of Columbia! So fearfully has this echoed malediction darkened and deepened, that the crime of which it is the penalty has almost vanished from the long catalogue of human infamy. This is but the just verdict of our common nature outraged. Humanity instinctively shrinks away from the wretch, who,

to save his own life, to minister to his own wants, or to gratify his vulgar ambition, betrays the sacred cause of Truth, devotes to the sword the mighty and the good! What words can designate the reputation of him who sold his Lord for "thirty pieces of silver!" What a record is that of the coward who doomed the Three Hundred invincible Heroes who could have guarded Thermopylæ and the whole of Greece against Persia's myriads! What eternal disgrace clings to their memory! What fields of innocent blood open ever upon their gaze beyond the infernal river in the regions of Darkness and of Night!

But there are other battle-fields than those of national glory, there are other conflicts than those which decide the fate of crowns and empires, there are other soldiers than those mechanical masses which move to "death or glory" at the sound of the leader's trumpet. There is a field on which SACRED SCIENCE unfurls her snow-white banner: on that field is the strife for the moral empire of the human family;—the conflict for the moral enfranchisement of man, —the fight for the liberty of imprisoned Truth from the iron bondage in which she has been chained for ages. The soldiers upon this field are scattered far and wide—for this "field is the World"—without captain, leader, or general, save that eternal and all-pervading spirit of inspiration who impels each to action. They are a thoughtful, peaceful band, unoffending and unobtrusive, till their heaven-born mistress is insulted, her rights invaded, her character misrepresented, then they rouse them to action, and by the very blaze of their armor of light the children and soldiers of darkness are struck with perpetual blindness! But, alas, among them, though not of them, are spies, betrayers, renegades, who profess to fight her battles, who cover their dark designs with her sacred livery! We ask all, but the children of expediency, are these less guilty than those? The renegade in the former camp dooms but a city, destroys but a faction, overthrows but an empire;—he inflicts but a local injury,—a flesh wound which time and nature will soon heal; but he of the latter helps to spread ruin and desolation over the moral world, stops the progress of Truth, fortifies the strongholds of error, of evil, and of wrong, wherever man breathes the breath of life. And the nearer the good he retards and the evil he perpetuates cling to human hearts, touch human woe, dries, or multi-

plies human tears, softens, or deepens human sighs, the harder the heart, the deeper the guilt of him who, reckless of all save his miserable and worthless self, deserves the name and curse of the renegade.

These reflections have been forced upon us by the perusal of several numbers of a very small monthly periodical, published in our city, bearing the title at the head of this article; and giving by such designation, an implied pledge that its object was to aid in the advancement of the Reformed School of Medicine in this country. But the first number, and every number from the first, served only to deepen our conviction that whatever be its motives, its plain and direct tendency is to weaken our cause, to throw discredit upon our literature, to divide our ranks, and to break up our infant institutions. In fine, the question forced itself upon our mind more than once, whether it was not the work of some Jesuit in the secret service and pay of our opponents to carry on a new mode of attack by exposing us to the contempt and ridicule of our neighbors?—But the great difficulty arose how to deal with it, whether to treat it with silent contempt till its brief career should end in oblivion, or to review its merits and laugh at its pretensions. The last conclusion has prevailed with us. And now fresh difficulties present themselves,—as our Journal does not admit a comic department,—for it seems almost impossible to find salient points for a serious and respectable criticism in a sheet which the most indulgent and kind-hearted critic must pronounce beyond the pale of literature. But we must really trespass upon the good nature of our editors, and for once claim an exception in favor of a *Serio-comic*, which is all they can expect.

It has ever been laid down as a rule that the business of a candid and honest reviewer is with what men give to the world in the shape of learned productions, and not with the men themselves. A departure from this rule is seldom pardoned. But a clear distinction, however, must be made, as it always has been made,—that since the *mind* of an author is reflected from every page he sends from the press, it is impossible to avoid dealing with his mental development, while his corporal essence or material part may be spared for chemical analysis, or a surgical post mortem. And here we must call the attention of the reader to the well-known impromptu of the

most celebrated of sacred poets, when a fair, but too sarcastic, lady made some allusion to his small and deformed figure.

“ Had I an arm to reach the pole,
And grasp the ocean with a span,
I must be measured by my *soul*:—
The *mind*'s the stature of the man!”

Having, then, such authority, we will use the terms *mind*, *man*, or *soul*, as convertible or synonymous terms:—that is, if we shall find any mind, any soul, or any man stowed away in the pages of the “*News*.” There have been, however, those who, for want of personal valor, found their way, as the Greeks entered Troy, into the sanctified fields of science under cover of some object acknowledged by all as worthy to stand in the temple of the Goddess of Wisdom! Perhaps here, too, the cause of Homœopathy has been taken advantage of for a similar purpose.

But we review principles, not men,—we deal with acts, not motives. Whatever is offered to the public as a literary production, every member of the public has the undoubted right to challenge on its merits:—and, moreover, if such production demand the public to depart from their previous usages and adopt those itself inculcates, who will deny to the public the warrant to investigate with searching accuracy the real or assumed claims of those who offer themselves as leaders, as well as the value of their new inventions? We live not under the despotism of a single will, we are a Republican people, and freedom of debate with the tongue and the pen is the windlass by which we wind up truth, from the bottom of her well. Using this rightful privilege, we therefore proceed to examine:—

- I. The moral and professional aspect,
- II. The literary and critical pretensions,
- III. The ostensible and real objects, of the

“HOMŒOPATHIC NEWS.”

In almost all that men say or write there is a moral tone, a bearing, a spirit,—an animus which lurks beneath the outer dress, inseparable, and manifest to every one who is in the habit of looking deeper than the surface. In glancing over the pages of the “*News*” we find the lion's share of the *critiques* and other contributions, guarded in the rear by the initials, “*A. L.*,” which two letters only

of course, render themselves responsible ; and, like respectable and moral parents, show clearly no disposition to desert their infant offspring.

This is a most fortunate circumstance, for it at once removes the difficulty we have just alluded to, that of avoiding to identify the literature with the man. So that having before us only *two letters* of the English alphabet, we avail ourselves of the license never denied to authors, and by personification give them such a body and soul as shall suit us best ;—that, for instance, of a profound medical philosopher, of a charity school-boy blowing his own penny trumpet, or that of an idiot squeaking through a straw,—or still more likely, that of some adventurous pretender endeavoring to elbow his way into medical literature without a single necessary qualification, and wanting common sense enough to guard him from throwing open to public view his very weakest points.—O thou fearful and troublesome disease, *Cacoëthes scribendi* !—how much evil hast thou done, how many weak-minded and unfortunate creatures hast thou tickled till they have deliberately destroyed themselves !

Now on looking through the thin veil which covers these pseudophilippics, whether they are directed against our books or journals, the conviction is forced upon us that the strongest efforts of the writer are put forth to aim hard and heavy blows at *authors* rather than their books—that his object is to undermine their literary and professional reputation by strongly mooted hints that they have forced themselves into false positions, which it is his mission to expose by tearing away the screen which has hitherto concealed their ignorance from the public and the rest of their brethren, who must of course be proportionately less gifted than he whose penetrating acumen has “brought to light these hidden things of darkness :”—this great discoverer whom we should all at once agree to style “THE HERO OF THE FIRST HUNDRED MISTAKES !” We have said that all works offered to the public are fair objects of criticism, but when one who is evidently unequal to the task of reviewing the merits of any work in our language—a language of which he does not understand the simple elements—covers his personal attacks with childish and silly “distinctions without difference,” which can have no weight—even if real—for or against the merit or demerit of any work, he must be really very imprudent and very conceited, as well as very lax, indeed, in those principles of candor, honesty and honor, which

always govern the true man, and the true scholar. Moreover, if it is true, as some have stated, that our personified hero is another *A. L.* who is laboring hard to force *copyhold* possessions of his own into the medical book-mart, which he assumes should supplant those he attempts to belabor so soundly, we cannot help fearing that other motives than the love of purifying and advancing our profession have tempted so extraordinary a writer into the very dangerous arena of learned criticism. The frequent, but abortive, attempts to give the authors he deals with a "sly dig in the ribs," a "smart cut over the hat-band," at every turn of his little phrase, which never loses sight of the man, while playing with the book, is too clear an evidence that his strictures want more than scholastic merit:—an honest intention,—which while it would not spare error would make candid and generous admissions of the virtues it could not fail also to discover! But *A. L.* does not interweave one "thread of candor with his web of wiles!" Surely no book of our school can be so villainously compounded that does not admit of something for commendation, or, at least, for simple tolerance; yet *A. L.* can find nothing but "vile trash" in everything he brings to his touchstone! There must be something morally wrong in this style of criticism—something that scholars and thinkers, and even plain people, must heartily despise! The critic who seizes upon everything within his reach, like the modern tearing machine, commonly called a "devil," and rends and tortures it till it appears totally valueless, must be both a very dishonest and a very ill-natured critic. We conclude then that this uncandid and ungenerous dealing with authors and their works implies an abnegation of that honorable and chivalrous bearing on the part of a reviewer, which always claims and receives due weight and high influence with the public.

In private and public intercourse the members of the medical profession are scrupulously careful to maintain towards each other the courteous and kindly relations which their education, their calling and their manners inculcate. If they differ on points of science, these only become the legitimate objects of debate:—personal reflections, or accusations of "profound ignorance," either directly or by implication must be considered, as they always have been, in the highest degree uncourteous and unprofessional. When the impartial reader of slang diatribes of personal abuse is forced to pronounce his opinion, it must only be that of his school-boy days—"Tu

quoque!" It is not well to forget the good old maxim,—“*Suaviter in modo, fortior in re,*”—or, “soft words and strong arguments.” And he who habitually departs from this gains but little credit from that class of the community of whom it is justly said, that “the opinion of one of these is worth that of a whole theatre of others!” Let it not be supposed that we lay down rules and violate them ourselves, not so, here we are free. We deal with a myth, a man of straw, an outlaw, a renegade from our school and our cause, a sower of discord, a scatterer of firebrands, whom we pronounce destitute of the moral qualities that govern critics and their strictures. When the scholar, the man of parts, the candid reviewer of our works appears among ourselves, or our opponents, we will be found among the first to do him honor.

The second division of our subject binds us to the consideration of the LITERARY PRETENSIONS of our Hero of “The first hundred mistakes,”—for “the News” is eclipsed by his shadow. Reader, did you ever try to be serious when all around you excited laughter? Were you ever obliged to forego the light touches of Momus’ wand for the heavy strokes of Vulcan’s sledge-hammer? If so, you will sympathize with us when we yield a reluctant obedience to the advice of our master, Horace,—“*Severum seria dictu,*”—which may be rendered, pull a long face when you try to be grave. And as our Hero seems really serious himself, and appears to take for granted that the world must consider his literary endowments as “no joke,” we must let him dream a while under the influence of his delightful narcotic. But in spite of our good resolutions,—alas for human frailty!—we are forced to remember that we are dealing with the only living type of two doughty reformers, whose deeds shall live to the end of time,—he of *la Mancha* whose spirit prompted him to set the world to rights with the edge of his rusty blade, and he of England, the immortal *Hudibras*, who in all points most resembles our own personification, whose mental characteristics are summed up with so much pith and truthfulness in these lines,—

“The difference was so small, his brain
Outweigh’d his rage but half a grain;
Which made some take him for a tool
That knaves did work with call’d a fool.”

Still more striking is the parallelism when we consider them purely

as *men of letters*, which indeed seems to be their highest ambition. How truthfully does the poet sum up the wonderful genius of Sir Hudibras' tongue and pen—and with what prophetic discernment does he point to those of our own hero, in the distance, when he says,—

“ It had an odd promiscuous tone,
As if he had talk'd three parts in one ;
Which made some think when he did gabble,
Th' had heard three laborers of Babel,
Or Cerberus himself pronounce
A leash of languages at once.”

But, pray, pardon our breach of promise—we shall be as serious as we can with our fiction. Now the first bold plunge which our hero takes, is into a work which is, perhaps, the most extensively used of all our medical books. We doubt whether the table of any physician of our school in America, or even in Europe, could be found without it. It is a translation from the German, by a man to whom our school is more indebted for translations, at least, than to any other living man. Of this book most favorable notice has been taken in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*—an authority we all respect;—the strongest commendations of it have been sent before the public by sixteen of the best educated and most experienced medical men on this side of the Atlantic; and with all this, “A. L.” has but to open the book and exhibit its “mistakes” *by hundreds*; and with such an air, too, as to lead us to suppose that if the life and health of the “*News*” could last long enough, there would not be one single word in “*Jahr's Manual*,” that he could not show to be a “mistake!”

But let us examine more closely the value of these “mistakes;”—and when this is done, what do we find? Why, that it is a matter of perfect indifference whether our hero or Hempel is right:—for after all, though it may not be “all the same in German,” it certainly *is* “all the same in English.” Still never did Jeffreys pour forth his splendid sentences in the columns of the *Edinburgh Review* with more pomp, than does our “A. L.” his decrepit monosyllables in giving the medical world to understand the wonderfully important diagnostic distinctions between “*the feet and the toes*,” “*dread of death*,” and “*meditations on death*,” “*cold air*,” and

"*a draught of cold air!*"—in fact, he most emphatically urges upon all to remember

"How great a difference there be
'Twixt tweedledum and tweedledee!"

And now we must guard the reader against doing too great injustice to our man of letters, since there is good reason to believe that he is *not* responsible for the *spelling* or *accidence* of these criticisms, —they are, as we understand, "*found*" *by the respectable and intelligent printer* of the "News." But if you claim for the knight of the "Mistakes" the analysis and the *logic*, we concede them, of course, and admit that like his *noble* and *learned* antitype,

"He was in logic a great critic,
Profoundly skilled in analytic;
He could distinguish and divide
A hair 'twixt south and south-west side,
On either side he would dispute,
Confute, change hands, and still confute!"

But to be serious once more, is it not supremely ridiculous to see this *learned* fiction lifting up his head from the depths of his native darkness, and blowing from his tortuous brazen trumpet his long loud blast of mock defiance?—"FIRST HUNDRED MISTAKES!"—and with Neptunian pomp,

"Littora voce replet sub utroque jacentia Phœbo."

If we could identify our responsible initials with any living mortal, we might, with all justice to the cause we advocate in this paper, ask him how he dared to intrude himself into the literature of our school?—or upon what presumption he could have thought himself qualified to enter the domain of learned labor? Where are the evidences of his fitness? not in the silly specimens before us.—What has he given to the world to supercede what he endeavours to destroy? Has he given us anything that should claim for his present folly and incapacity our forbearance? Since we are dealing with a fiction we must, here too, have recourse to conjecture. Now there is a *strange coincidence* between our initials and the *first letters* of the name of a person who calls himself the "author" of a *single number* of what he styles "A Key" to the Materia Medica—the only number, indeed, that can ever appear, since it never sold,

and holds, therefore, the same *enviable* position as the good Dr. Primrose's Essay on Monogamy, that of "*being read by the happy few.*" But to identify it fully, it has another name,—unique, grand, high-sounding,—a name which must have cost a world of thought and labor to fish it up from the depths of the Hellenic sea,—*ecce signum*!—"comparative PHARMACODYNAMIC!"

We do not, of course, vouch for the perfect identity of the "A. L." of the "first hundred mistakes," and the "A. L.," which, with their *nominal compliments*, we find on the title page of the first and last number of that wonderful "key," which must have drawn more perspiration in *forging*, to judge only from its second *great name*, than Hercules spent upon his seven labors, or Vulcan upon the thunderbolts which he forged for the Cyclops;—but be this as it may, we are at liberty to review both under the same head, seeing that if they are not identical, they must be near relatives. And to begin with the title page, supposing that it and the other pages of this rusty key are the veritable wonders sent into the world by our *medical philosopher*, we must still beg of you, our reader, to pity, not to blame him. You have doubtless read the words of the immortal translator of Homer.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing—
 Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring;
 Their shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
 But drinking largely sobers it again."

Here is a clear illustration of the force of these beautiful lines. No sooner does this pitiable scribbler dip his pen into his ink horn and spell out an article and a noun, consisting together of six letters,—all of which he probably managed to help himself to—than with that insane desire to be considered learned, which descended to him from *Hudibras*, he madly plunges into the depths of Greek, where, finding himself struggling out of his depth, he calls some one to come and help him, who, while he drags the maniac back with one hand, makes a desperate grab with the other at that which had tempted him away from his monosyllables—some long learned word—and out he pulls, by some strange freak of Fortune in her comic mood, a monster "a yard-and-half-long,"—PHARMACODYNAMIC!" But, as ill luck would have it, in the scramble of landing, this literary sea-serpent looses the *last joint of*

the tail, which accident, our hero and his chance deliverer do not perceive,—not being at all acquainted with the fish usually caught in Grecian waters,—and so exhibit the monster as a *perfect* specimen to the public, amid the laughter and jeers of the well instructed ! To be literal, there is no such word as the one referred to, and therefore the thing is complete nonsense. Reader, what an ocean of illustrations rise before your well-informed mind ; and how you chuckle when you remember the story of a certain well known little beast of burden having dressed himself in the shaggy and imposing hide of the king of the forest, and moving about with much pomp to the terror of his fellows, till at last, grown bold by his success, he forgets himself, quickens his pace, his ears stick out, he is seized, dragged into the mill and beaten within an inch of his life. Or may be you remember the Jack Pudding of your fair-going days, assuming his grotesque attitudes, and shouting, “look here, look here, good folks, this be something as is new and uncommon, and was never seen in these parts afore !” Or probably you call to mind the more beautiful and instructive lines—

“Telephus et Peleus, cum pauper et exul, uterque
Projicit ampullas, et sesquipedalia verba,
Si curat cor spectantis tetigisse querela.”

(Telephus and Peleus when in poverty and exile, throw away their ranting and bombast, if they desire to move the heart of the spectators with their complaints.)

Reader you know it has ever been the stale trick of illiterate pedants and designing charlatans, thus to take the unwary multitude by surprise ; they, like small dealers, cram their whole stock into the little front window to impress the passers-by with the vastness of the wealth within ; they strike their readers dumb with high sounding words and phrases, which are often as great mysteries to themselves as to their hearers. But, A. L., this trick may do very well among the mountains, or in an obscure village, like poor, dear, simple, “Sweet Auburn,” whose schoolmaster could glory, even over its Pastor

“While words of learned length and thundering sound,
Amazed the gazing rustics ranged around ;
And much they gazed and much the wonder grew
That one small head could carry all he knew.”

In a large city it is not so easy to become great without merit. As to the internal contents of this "key," which, at its very first turn, may be said to have "come to a dead lock," there is nothing new, nothing original, nothing to give us more light ; a school boy of fifteen could have *copied* it as well as the "author." There is not a respectable man in our school, who would lose his time in consulting it for five minutes. But, pardon, we have been hasty ! There is *one very* original diagnostic sign, or symptom given us on the 58th page, in these words, "*as if a mouse were running in the muscles of the limbs !*" Now, it is *seldom*, indeed, that pathology has gone to such depths, or post-mortems revealed such wonders ; and most truly may it be said, not only of this unique symptom, but of the whole thing—

"Parturiant montes ; nascetur ridiculus mus."

(The mountains were in labor and a ridiculous mouse was born.)

We have now done with this would-be-learned leader, and we have dealt thus summarily with him, because the honour of our cause, the character of our school, and justice to others, require that we should protest against men standing up in our midst and putting themselves forward as learned authors and teachers, while they are barren of thought, strangers to literature, obliged to beg, borrow, or buy, the very orthography and grammar of their childish rigmaroles ;—perfect bankrupts in all that should constitute writers. We are tired of this thing, let us have no more of it ; we will not have our ears stunned by a wooden mallet thumping an empty small-beer barrel. If it should be necessary for us again to defend our great cause, homœopathy,—this other gospel of health sent down from God for the salvation of the health of his children, we will exhibit its opprobria in this country so clearly, so fully, so undisguisedly, that every man, woman and child, in the community, shall be able to distinguish between the regularly educated physicians of our school and the illiterate quacks who *assume* the title and rights of medical men, with no other qualification than bare-faced impudence ; and in many cases, mental incapacity and paucity of ideas, good-naturedly excused by our too-unsuspecting community on the score of inability to make a fluent use of our vernacular.

According to promise, we proceed now to inquire into THE OSTENSIBLE and REAL OBJECTS of the "Homœopathic News."—That

it has for its *ostensible* object, "the good of the cause" of which it professes to be an organ, is doubtless very clear; and it is equally clear, we think, that it has for its *real* object, *three things*, viz.:—1st. The exhibition of a "*large collection of 'mistakes.'*" 2d. The establishing of a Homœopathic Pharmacy, and, 3d. That of advertising what is called "*Independent Medical College of Pennsylvania, located at Philadelphia.*" These occupy the foreground as the principal objects, all the rest of its contents are but figures of minor importance, which serve to fill up the background. The first head,—"*the mistakes,*"—has received due consideration at our hands. The second, the "*Pharmacy,*" we suppose to be what it professes; and we, therefore, wish good speed to every honest man who prepares and sells pure homœopathic medicines. The third, the "*Independent College,*" only remains to be dealt with. No easy matter, for although we are *told* that it is "*located at Philadelphia,*" with all the most diligent searching we could institute, we never could find its *locus stationis*—its whereabouts is, in fact, *nowhere*, its presence is not any where present, its being is a nonentity, its existence, a fiction! If it is *a college*, it is a college in the clouds, or in the air,—*in the ink and paper*, only of the "*News,*" but nowhere else that we can find. If it has any tangible bodily parts, who are its professors? Where is its Faculty? Where are its buildings, its lecture-rooms, its dissecting-rooms? its laboratory, and all the absolutely indispensable parts of the thing we commonly denominate a College? They are simply "*NON EST INVENTUS!*"

Never, since men first assembled in the groves and walks of Academus, to listen to truth from the lips of Plato, did such a conception enter the minds of men!—a college *in abstracto, in nubibus!* Now, if it has any professors, who and what are they? where are their names announced? Perhaps, as the rest of the college is in the clouds, the professors, being, "*non compos mentis,*" of course, have taken a trip thither also. Where are the students! They *certainly are not yet born*, or we are very much mistaken. Has it, even any staff of any kind to support its literary pretensions? any lecturers even? O yes, "*here we are,*" once more, reader! *Another strange coincidence!* Now, is it not providential that this *Orphan of History* is not disowned altogether of the human race! that one "*mighty man of valour,*" has the courage to *advertise himself* in the columns of the "*News,*" "*as one of the lecturers*

attached to the Independent Medical School of Pennsylvania." I wonder who the others are, now? Sir Hudibras "could tell where the ghosts of defunct bodies lie," and perhaps his descendant, A. L., *if he were here*, could tell us where these are? What, halloo! Have we stumbled over him in another shape? Why, stay, I see *they are the identical* INITIALS, "*A. L.*!" Why, it cannot be! Proteus himself could not assume so many forms, could not so multiply himself—what, an *author*, an *editor*, a *critic*, a *professor*, a *lecturer*, an *examiner*, a *doctor*!—in fact a universal genius!—a literary jack-of-all-trades! Oh, Isaac Factotum, my worthy friend, go hide thy head forever; for although thou wast barber-surgeon, parish-clerk, schoolmaster, blacksmith, man-midwife, A. L. is henceforward thy master. If all the initials we have cited belong to the same multiplying-glass of a man, history shall never name thee first of the Protean race of learned heroes. No, her muse shall for evermore glow with the praises of him who could establish so vast a literary credit upon so small a capital, and fill so many learned stations without even having burdened himself with the trivial and vulgar elementary requirements necessary for spelling common words, or stringing together the little sentences of a street-beggar's "*fakement*!"

O! A. L. A. L.!

"None, but thyself,
Can be thy parallel!"

But let us proceed, we have found *something* at last, among the clouds and darkness which surround this wonderful conception of a college; we have discovered that A. L. *is the college*, and that *the college is A. L.*! and being now a "*corporate body*," a plural unit, we must view it as public property; and as this same public is a most exacting owner, as one of his overseers we demand the rights of such property for our master. We will, then, give it credit, for the sake of argument, for all it claims for itself—(i. e. being a college,)—a hypothesis which must turn out a "*reductio ad absurdum*."

There are German Agents in London, Dublin, and the other large towns of Great Britain, who send circulars from time to time to all the would-be-literary men in the country, offering a college degree of any height from a B. A. to an L. L. D. for a consideration of from £16 to £30. No examinations are required, no status, nothing

but the money, and a "*Latin Thesis*," which the circular kindly and softly hints "may be provided for," if any impediment should prevent the aspirant for "honors" furnishing the necessary "*hic hæc hoc*" himself! Now, without any doubt, the "Independent Medical College, located at Philadelphia," is a great advance upon the Germanic degree agency, for it requires "*seven certificates*" from seven examiners, who are to be of *the candidate's own choosing*, to obtain the diploma; a cardinal and not-to-be-forgotten-fact respecting which is, "that it will be bound up with the certificates in the more modern and AGREEABLE form of an Album!"—mark the scholarlike use of the word, "agreeable." Here, indeed, is a most desirable advance, as well as a long-needed improvement upon antiquated rolls of sheep-skin tied with green ribbon; nor do we think it at all likely that men will hereafter have the warrant of their medical status *warped* and *twisted* in the old-fashioned way, while it may be bound up for them in an agreeable Album! An album, without a single white page between its covers, but choke-full with *thirty-five* dollars worth of certificates and *fifteen* dollars worth of a diploma! Who can resist this new boon? who will ever be so forgetful of his interest as to refuse to profit by this new and substantial advantage offered by A. L.? What sheer, undignified, contemptible huckstering? What peddling tones are these? How they fall upon the ear like the accents from behind the counter? the coaxing, smooth, honied tones of the "nice young man," with his "please, do you want anything else to-day?" "A nice new Album to-day, sir, the latest out, sir?" Away with these paltry tricks! they are despicable, they are below contempt! But where are the lucky candidates for the new medical albums to receive their *medical qualifications*. They have no stated lectures, no building, no professors, except that "*multum in parvo*," A. L., and surely, great as he is, he cannot undertake all the important branches of a complete medical education! But they must go *anywhere* they think best, to any of the old school colleges in the city, in the country; get their knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Obstetrics, Pathology, Chemistry, &c., where and how they can! Have the concocters of this mad scheme of college-building ever reflected for a moment, upon the consequences of the untoward position in which they would place young men who desire to study and practice medicine according to the Homœopathic law? Are they aware that

the old school colleges have closed their doors against men professing to believe the above law? Are they acquainted with the fact, that if they are permitted to attend such lectures at any of our public institutions even, they do so under the frowns of professors and the sneers and persecutions of their thoughtless fellow-students? Do they know then, that to enter at all, the student must make a *false declaration*, if not in words, by implication, and that for his own peace he must play the hypocrite all the time of his curriculum? And should he wish to take the degree of his alma mater—and who is there that after standing his terms at any college, would wish to skulk off, like a blockhead or a dunce, without a guarantee that he complied with all his literary and moral engagements, like a scholar and a man?—his last public declaration is stamped with falsehood; and as this medical mongrel departs with his allopathic diploma, does he not bear “a lie in his right hand?” Is he not forever morally tainted, sunk in his own estimation and in that of those who watched his false career? What, have we not unprincipled scoundrels enough hanging about us and sheltering under our shadow, without a manufactory for making them by the score? It is perfectly justifiable in the man who, during his college terms, or any later period, becomes convinced of the truth of Homœopathy to practice according to its law during his life, if he think fit, and no man has a right to call his integrity or his honor in question, any more than they could that of Paul, Luther, or Hahnemann. But to matriculate under the impression that he knows this truth, that the college is opposed to it and would refuse to tolerate him, if known, argues a laxity in morals, a want of courage, a truckling to expediency, which never will permit any man to become great, honored, or successful;—men who have made their first voyages under false colors, never can bear the unfurled standard of their nation upon the high seas, or victorious through the fleet of the enemy. Such are not the men to deliver humanity from the drug plague, that great desolator of our race. Such was not our great Apostle, such would not be the plan of education he would propound. Besides, the moral disadvantages we have noticed, there would be most serious professional ones against those who study at old school colleges. It is impossible for them to sit under the instructions they must hear and not be prejudiced against the system of which they could have little or no practical knowledge, and of which they

have not acquired even the rude elements, so that the young man who enters as a Homœopath is almost certain to go out as its greatest opponent. We have seen instances of this kind and could name them, if necessary; we have even seen men whose faith the journals chronicled, making shipwreck during their period of study among the Allopaths! But the more we pursue this scheme for "aiding our cause," the more futile, weak, ill-judged and fallacious does it appear. It is a thoughtless, ill-digested, crude conception; so much so, indeed, as to make it doubtful whether its authors had not some other object in view, widely different from the ostensible one which they put forth, and for which this was intended only as a blind. Had we no college to sustain our cause, were we still under the ban of law and public opinion, movements of this kind might be excusable; but having in our midst a college sustained and guarded by the same legal rights, by the same will of the source of all power—the people—as others—the first legalized institution in the country, and, we believe, before any had existence even in Europe; from which Englishmen, rejected at their own institutions, because of their medical creed, returned with the legal warrant that they were qualified medical men! And that too, from the land in whose bosom alone religion and science worship in their respective temples under the protection of law without the restraint of sect or faction; the holiness of the cause, the loftiness of the aim and the utility of the object appealing to the hearts, minds, and judgment of a free and unfettered people; and thus reading a lesson to the medical despotism of the mother country as humiliating as it is noble. Is it not enough then, that we have a college like this, which provides all the facilities for as respectable a course of medical education as any other college at home or abroad, and requires only time, encouragement and sympathy to become all that could be desired or expected of such an institution; where bands of men can be trained to think, to act, to move in concert, in harmony; to sympathize in a common cause, to make head against the common enemy, and conquer, not by destroying, but by saving the people from disease, and the profession from error and malpractice? But petty scribblers, who cannot put upon paper, according to the rules of our language, *even the name* of this beggarly rival—concocted for the purpose of forcing into public notice this obscure myth, who alone glories in his "attachment,"—must come and dictate the learned laws, rules and

regulations by which American students should be governed. There is one remarkable feature, inseparable from most, nearly all, schemes laid by the Anglo-American mind, whether literary or commercial, a sound and firm foundation, which admits of a lofty, extensive, and solid superstructure, if capital and perseverance fail not in its accomplishment; and were there nothing else wanting from this wild agglomeration of metaphysical abstractions, which the News calls "a college," but this one feature it is abundant proof that it is no plant of native growth,—there is nothing English, nothing American, nothing solid, nothing noble, nothing truthful, nothing promising about it. It is, like our "A. L.," a *fiction*, a shadow, a would-be-literary humbug. Let no man who values his reputation ever disgrace himself by being "fooled" out of his money for this "album!"

Reader, we have done! what? just what we intended; exposed ignorance, checked impertinence, cautioned imprudence, counselled folly, poured contempt upon what we know to be hollow and delusive, and rendered honor and praise to what we believe to be, if not yet perfect, safe, sound and honorable.

Perhaps, you may think we have wasted too much learned labor upon *what, after all, is nothing*, and must, therefore, come to nothing without all this sarcasm; this may be all true, we grant, still we can only excuse ourselves in the words of George Coleman (the younger).

"Reader! if you have genius, you'll discover,
Do what you will to keep it cool,
It, now and then, in spite of you, boils over,
Upon a fool.
Haven't you, (lucky man if *not*) been vex'd,
Worn, fretted, and perplex'd,
By a pert, busy, would-be-clever knave,
A forward, empty, self-sufficient slave?
And haven't you, all Christian patience gone,—
At last, put down the puppy, with your wit;—
On whom it seem'd, tho' you had mines of it,
Extravagance to spend a jest upon."

Those engaged in the gravest pursuits, are sometimes called upon to "shoot Folly as it flies." She has so long and so often whisked about our ears and across our eyes with so much pertinacity, that it became necessary to destroy, with a single shot, a thing that was at once a private and public nuisance.

EDITORIAL.

Light is spreading, and wisdom will not die with us. Dr. Tewkesbury, an allopathic physician, of Portland, Maine, has made an important discovery. He has actually found out that camphor is an antidote for strychnine, the active principle, or one of the active principles, of *nux vomica*. We clip the following report of this extraordinary discovery from the Journals, in which no doubt it has been inserted with the approbation of this wonderfully learned doctor of medicine.

"It appears that a boy was seized with convulsions, and it was ascertained that he had just eaten a biscuit picked up at the door of an eating house, that was made for the purpose of killing rats, and contained about one and a half grains of strychnine. The boy's spasms were so severe that immediate death was inevitable, though all the usual remedies were resorted to. Camphor could not be introduced into the stomach on account of the continued lock-jaw. Accordingly strong injections of camphor were used, and the body immersed in a hot camphor bath, and in a few hours the boy was comparatively well."

Does Dr. Tewkesbury know, that even the children in the city where he resides have been taught that camphor is a most potent antidote to the poisonous effects of *nux vomica*, as well as to a variety of other vegetable poisons? Is he aware that the little Domestic Manuals, sold at fifty cents and circulated for ten or fifteen years among the Homœopathic families in the good old town, or more modern city of Portland, have been all that time teaching that camphor is the antidote to *nux vomica* or strychnia? Is he aware that any larger works on Homœopathy, with tables of most poisons and their antidotes arrayed against each other in conveniently opposing lines, like the soldiers in a battle field, have found their way more than twenty years ago, to the State of Maine, and been constantly in use in his neighborhood. And he has just made the fortunate ACCIDENTAL discovery, for he appears to have prescribed it *ad libitum*, and after all other remedies had been tried without effect, and he gives us no scientific reasons for his prescription. We are then justified in presuming that his prescription was a mere guess, a lucky guess, a fortunate dereliction from allopathic orthodoxy, but which, after having guessed at, he determined to try faithfully any how—an attempt to administer it by the mouth, probably by the nose—a camphor bath, an injection per rectum—certainly very faithful applications. If the child died it was not from any want of camphor.

But Dr. Tewkesbury knew all this before. He has not just waked up

from a twenty years sleep. He has not just peeped out upon this world of light, and life, and progress. He knew the Hahnemannian doctrine.

He knew that Homœopaths taught that camphor was an antidote to strychnia. He determined to try it. He was successful. With characteristic dishonesty he determined that Homœopathy should derive no credit from his success. He would appropriate all that to himself. We use the term characteristic dishonesty, not personally nor specifically as applying to Dr. Tewkesbury in the usual relations of life, but as applying to all that class of physicians, of which he appears to be one, who disgrace the profession of medicine by affecting to treat Homœopathic science, and the discoveries and investigations of Homœopathic physicians with contempt, whilst they appropriate to themselves the credit, which they filch from the labors and investigations of others.

Away with all this puerility, gentlemen. Don't be so much afraid of Homœopathy. Put on a little more courage; look it full in the face. Dare to give it credit for any good it possesses. It will do you good, and not evil; and if you become enveloped in its ample folds, you will become possessed of life, liberty, and power, of which you have yet formed no conception.

We clip the following from the Boston Journal, with no small degree of satisfaction. Dr. Talbot, the operator mentioned in the paragraph graduated a few years ago at the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, since which time he has been to Europe for the purpose of making himself more familiar with the legitimate duties of his profession and we are right glad to perceive that he has been spared to return and to enter so successfully upon a career of usefulness to his fellow men.

SURGICAL OPERATION FOR CROUP.

"A few days since, the operation of tracheotomy, or opening the wind-pipe and inserting a silver tube, was performed on a little boy between four and five years old, the only son of Enoch H. Wakefield, of Chelsea. The child was in the last stages of croup, and in the operation a piece of membrane nearly three inches in length was removed. Immediate relief followed and there is much hope that the child will recover. The operation was performed by Dr. Talbot, homœopathist of this city, assisted by Dr. Gregg and the attending physician, Dr. Johnson, of Chelsea."

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — AUGUST, 1855. — No. IV.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

REMARKS ON ELECTRICITY.

BY C. PRETSCH, M. D.

The science of electricity presents to the student an accumulation of facts without connection or order. There is not even an attempt to give a definition of electricity. All the phenomena of magnetism, electricity, galvanism, animal magnetism, light, heat and the od, lately discovered by Dr. Reichenbach of Vienna, have been considered as manifestations of a certain something, sometimes called an etherial fluid, sometimes a force, a power, a property, pervading every substance.

This idea that the imponderabilia are mere properties of matter, got up only for the especial benefit of the latter, has, undoubtedly, wrought a great deal of mischief, and has probably been the principal cause of the prevailing materialism of our time and of the incredulity of the greater part of the people in regard to our practice. When people have no belief any more in anything except what they can weigh and measure, when crude matter is swinging its sceptre, and electricity is thought to be its slave, a mere property and force, called into existence only for the purpose of moving the unwieldy carcass of dead matter from one place to another, without even the right to be considered a somebody, when the work it performs quickly and promptly is thought to be performed by a nobody, then the chances of homœopathy in finding willing followers and believers is very small indeed. Though diseases will steal upon their victims unawares, though no physician has ever attempted

to measure and weigh the exact quantity of poison necessary to produce cholera, yellow fever, typhus, fever and ague, yet it is thought exceedingly ridiculous, if we attempt to attack this invisible enemy with equal weapons; though *disease* is produced by *imponderable* doses, yet it is considered requisite to measure out *health* by its *ponderable* doses of abominable drugs.

The tables are turned, however, completely in our favor, if we assume that all imponderabilia are nothing else but matter in a certain state, as has been shown in Nos. 11 and 12, Vol. III. of this Journal. I there called this state of matter the electric state, but as the terms electric and electricity have been used too long to denote certain phenomena only of imponderable matter, so that it would have been difficult to express by them the whole of all the manifestations of imponderable matter, without being misunderstood, it was thought better to look out for another term. There was none that seemed so appropriate as the term *od* or *odec* state, a term which Dr. Reichenbach applied to his so called force, lately discovered and described by him. *Od*, an old obsolete German word, signifies "*much in little*," and where could we find a more appropriate name for imponderable matter, small and insignificant in its bulk and weight, but most powerful in its action.

Therefore, the term *od* will henceforth be used to designate the imponderable state of matter, comprising all that has heretofore passed by the name of electricity, magnetism, galvanism, heat, light, *odic* force, animal magnetism, nervous power, vitality, *nervaura*, etc., etc. Accordingly, magnetism would be the *od* of iron, galvanism the *od* of oxygen and hydrogen respectively, animal magnetism, nervous power, *nervaura*, the *od* of animals and human beings; caloric and light are probably elementary *odic* matter, corresponding to or identical with carbon and oxygen—light being the *od* of carbon, and heat the *od* of oxygen. This is, however, mere hypothesis, without the least pretension to scientific accuracy.

But to return again to homœopathic medicines. It will easily be perceived, that our medicines act by virtue of the *od* developed out of the crude substance by means of trituration and shaking. By the experiments of Reichenbach it appears, that every substance is surrounded, as if by a halo, by more or less of its own *od*. The amount of this *od* is in proportion to the surface of the substance. Now, if this surface is increased by the breaking up of

the substance, the amount of its od is increasing also, so that by continued comminution of the substance, we develop more and more od, till at last the whole of the substance is changed into od. After this has taken place, all further trituration and shaking will be of no avail, and if we continue the process of dilution, we will only diminish the amount of odic matter, without adding any thing to its active power. The idea, therefore, of carrying on the dilutions ad infinitum, must be considered as highly illusory. It is true, we have seemingly not reached the limit yet, where the odic matter would be so far reduced in quantity, that its action would amount to almost nothing; some even maintain that our higher and highest potencies are quicker, stronger and more prompt in their action, than the lower ones.

This seeming contradiction might perhaps be best explained by an experiment made by Dr. Franklin, an account of which is given in Dr. Lardner's Lectures on Science and Art, Vol. I. Art. Electricity. It is said there—"The most important investigation was as to the place in which the electricity of the Leyden jar was contained. To determine this, Franklin charged a jar and insulated it. He then removed the cork and the wire by which the electricity was conveyed from the machine to the inside of the jar. On examining these, he found them free from electricity. He next carefully decanted the water from the charged jar into another insulated vessel. On examining this, it was found free from electricity. Other water in its natural state was now introduced into the charged jar to replace that which had been decanted, and on placing one hand on the outside coating and the other in the water, he received a shock as forcibly as if no change had been made in the jar, since it was first charged."

Have we not every reason to suppose that this adhering of odic matter to the glass of the jar may just as well take place in the bottles which contain our dilutions, and that only a limited amount of od is taken up by the water or alcohol? Might not this also be the cause, why, in carrying our dilutions higher and higher, we see apparently so little diminution of their medicinal power? Might not this, too, explain curious fact, that when a bottle containing a dilution, has become dry by evaporation, it needs only to be filled again with alcohol, when the dilution will be as efficient as before?

The transmutation of matter into the odic state by means of

trituration, explains why substances, which are inert in their crude state, may exert a powerful influence on the constitution after they have undergone the triturating process. Indeed, all mineral medicines, especially such as are soluble neither in water nor alcohol, should not be given at all in their crude state. Even soluble substances will probably act better if triturated with sugar of milk, than by merely dissolving and shaking them. Vegetable medicines if they can be had fresh, might perhaps be best prepared by mixing the expressed juice with an equal quantity of alcohol, and then distilling the mixture. There is, in my opinion, not the least danger of odic matter being destroyed by heat or fire. Dry vegetable medicines are probably more efficient if prepared like minerals by trituration. All this, however, is to be taken as a mere suggestion, which requires confirmation by experiments.

So much in regard to our medicines. If I have not succeeded entirely in scattering the mist that surrounds them, I have, at least had the earnest wish to do so. I entered upon this investigation with the keen desire to build up, if possible, a scientific foundation for homœopathy. Heretofore, the facts of homœopathy were considered to be at variance with the established facts of natural sciences; they were hardly thought important enough to justify an investigation into their truth and real value. Unnoticed by philosophers, ridiculed by fools, they were without any trial at once pronounced a humbug. The reason is—homœopathy was far ahead of natural science; there existed a wide gap between it and the latter. The discovery of the real nature of the so-called imponderabilia, will, I trust, fill up this gap, and whilst Homœopathy will acquire a solid foundation by it, it will also elevate natural philosophy to a height never dreamt of before by the wildest imagination.

I cannot dismiss this subject without making a few remarks in regard to our therapeutic law, "*Similia Similibus*." Might not the idea, that like will cure like, depend upon the misunderstanding of a therapeutic law, which might be more properly expressed by the formula, "*contraria contrariis*?" We see by the phenomena of electricity, galvanism, magnetism, &c., that similarly electrified bodies repel each other, and dissimilar ones attract each other. Reichenbach discovered, that the same law holds good in regard to the od; in chemistry an alkali will combine with an acid to form a

neutral compound ; should this law, then, be perverted all at once in regard to the action of medicine upon diseases? I trust not. The formula, therefore, ought to be "*contraria contrariis*," rather than "*similia similibus*." We must, however, not understand this formula in such a manner as is generally done by allopathic physicians, who select a contrarium for a single symptom only ; it has to be understood, as we have hitherto understood the law "*similia similibus*;" we must try to find a medicine that will be a contrarium to the *totality* of the symptoms of a disease ; but not only that—the symptoms of the medicine in their totality must be also a simile to the symptoms of the disease.

A few remarks will probably explain this seeming contradiction. We know, that every medicine produces two sets of symptoms, primary and secondary, of which the latter are the very opposite to the former. The primary symptoms have generally been ascribed to the action of the medicine on the system, and the secondary symptoms to the reaction of the system against the medicine.

Teste says, in regard to this matter, (vid. Teste, *Mat. Med.* page 48 and ff.) "All drugs, whatever may be the special nature of their action, give rise in every part of the organism where this action manifests itself, to two orders of symptoms, which are generally, if not always, opposite to each other. Hahnemann attributed no other symptoms to the drugs directly, except those which he had seen develop themselves under their influence, and which he therefore called primary symptoms, whereas he considered as simple reactions of the organism all those symptoms that succeeded the former, and which he therefore designated as secondary. I shall not stop to inquire, how far this theory of organic reaction is founded. This is purely speculative, and I attach only a mediocre importance to it. But the fact itself is, undoubtedly, one of the most important which the founder of homœopathy has observed ; and the striking contrast which it implies, seems to merit a profound study. It would be curious to know, how far the secondary symptom is always the contrary of the primary, and how this contrary is understood and realized by nature in certain cases. What we know positively is, that such a drug, which *primarily* causes diarrhœa, is *secondarily* followed by constipation, whereas another drug gives rise to phenomena of an inverse order. One drug *first* occasions a stoppage in the nose and a dry cough, *afterwards*, a

fluent coryza and bronchial catarrh, whereas another drug causes precisely the reverse symptoms. Here is a drug which first *slackens*, afterwards *accelerates* the circulation, whereas another occasions first an *increased speed* and afterwards an increased *slowness* of the pulse; opium first makes one *drowsy*, afterwards *wakeful*, whereas *coffea* makes one *wakeful* first, and afterwards *puts one to sleep*. Since I have named two drugs, the alternate effects of which are generally known, at least in their totality, I will avail myself of them in order to show how important it is for us to discover by pure experimentation, the opposite effects of a therapeutic agent. This simple proposition, which seems to me self-evident, *that natural maladies as well as drug diseases have their primary as well as secondary symptoms*, would render all demonstration superfluous, for, if this be true, who does not comprehend that it is not sufficient that a drug, in order to be really homœopathic to a given disease, should be capable of producing symptoms similar to those of the natural malady; but that the *alternate effects of the drug and those of the disease must develop themselves in the same order*."

Although I cannot boast of such an extensive experience as probably Dr. Teste is enjoying, yet reasoning from analogy, I am inclined to think that the conclusion he draws here is erroneous, and that just the opposite is the real therapeutic law, viz.: the *primary symptoms of a drug must be similar to the secondary symptoms of a disease, and the secondary symptoms of a drug must be similar to the primary symptoms of a disease*. Only in this way, one should at least suppose, would the symptoms of a disease be covered and neutralized by a medicine.

By the present pell-mell arrangement of our materia medica, where primary and secondary symptoms are thrown together in beautiful confusion, it would be a vain attempt to prove anything, either for or against this proposition. But in order to make at least the attempt of an argument, I will take up Peruvian bark as an illustration, the same medicine which revealed to Hahnemann the law of "*similia similibus*." Every physician knows, that cinchona in its primary action will produce an excitement of the system. Hahnemann himself remarks of this drug—"It is true the first doses of cinchona stimulate the strength, even of the weakest patient. He rises up, as if by magic; he wants to get up and dress

himself; his voice is stronger and his looks are more decided and resolute; he tries to walk and wants to eat."

Now, these symptoms, which may be considered primary, do certainly not correspond to the cold stage of intermittent fever, for which it is, though not the specific, at least one of the specifics. It corresponds, undoubtedly, better to the hot stage, which is the secondary one of intermittent fever.

Cinchona, we are further told, will cure only those states of weakness which are produced by excessive bleeding, purging, excessive flow of the milk of the breast, etc., causes which produce these symptoms primarily, whereas the cinchona-weakness belongs to the secondary symptoms.

In reading the symptoms produced by large doses of aconite, recorded in Pereira's *Mat. Med.* I was astonished to find hardly a single symptom pointing to inflammatory action, whereas, aconite as everybody knows, is our specific agent in inflammatory fevers. The secondary symptoms are probably not recorded there; if they were, we would likely have a fair argument in my favor.

Opium and coffea antidote each other. Why? Opium causes drowsiness first, and then sleeplessness, whereas coffea brings on sleeplessness first, followed by drowsiness. Is it not more than reasonable to suppose that the same law, according to which medicines antidote each other, is equally applicable to the action of medicine upon diseases?

Certainly this matter ought to be investigated. It is not at all strange, that this law of opposite similarity should have been overlooked so long, especially as primary and secondary symptoms are mixed in such an unwarrantable manner in our *materia medica*. Moreover, the primary symptoms are generally of short duration, if a drug is not taken repeatedly, whereas the secondary symptoms are lasting. Just the same seems to be the case with diseases. Diseases ought to be considered as being the effect of one dose of poison only. The primary symptoms therefore will be short and secondary symptoms only will in a great many cases, especially in chronic diseases, be presented to a physician for medical treatment. If he now selects a medicine, similar in its primary symptoms to those presented by the disease, he will probably select the right medicine. Hence, I suppose the mistake in our therapeutic formula.

OUR LITERATURE.—A REVIEW.

BY JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M. D.

"2D CIT. I am, indeed, sir, a surgeon to old shoes; when they are in great danger, I *re-cover* them.

* * * * *

"CÆS. Now, in the names of all the gods at once,
Upon what meat doth this, our Cæsar, feed,
That he is grown so great?"—JULIUS CÆSAR, Act 1.

When the spirit of freedom first shines upon the minds of men, who have suffered from time immemorial under the heavy hand and the galling chains of despotism, inspires them to break their bondage, and hurl the tyrant from his seat of power, nothing is more natural, than that the laws and usages under which they had been held in thralldom—whether written in statute-books, or received from father to son, as undisputable tradition—should follow the fate of the despot, and be wiped out from the archives of the nation or be nullified by new codes; and that their memory should perish as the days of darkness and fear had faded from the minds of the people. Or when, in days of moral gloom and unholy superstition, a light from heaven breaks in upon the soul of some anchorite, in his secluded cell, directs his researches to hidden records in which are stored the disused, overlaid and forgotten truths of everlasting life, and prompts him to lift them up as a standard to the nations; and when these nations kneel in simple reverence and unaffected adoration, would it not be reasonable to suppose that the degrading ceremonials and childish follies of the dark ages should disappear with the errors under whose shadow they were fostered. But although these results do finally spring from all reformatations, whether political, religious or medical, yet undeniable experience, and a long array of those stubborn things, called *facts*, furnish undeniable proofs that *results* linger long and depart but slowly, after their causes have disappeared. It would be easy to show, by the history of ancient nations, and even by "modern instances," that the chains and fetters which vanquished tyrants had left to rust on the fields, from which they fled discomfitted, have not unfrequently been picked up, furbished and fondly treasured, by many who looked back with reverence on the "olden and better times," not only as mementoes,

but in their peevish and fretful moods to shake them in the faces of those whose liberties they would still gladly see restricted. And who needs to be told how often the stake-bound victim lifted up his eyes to heaven, through the flames that consumed him, according as rival sectaries were able, in their turn, to command the arm of the civil power?—or how vigilantly and successfully the witch finder magnified his office, and with what sage wisdom and holy indignation the legal functionary pronounced his verdict upon some wretch who was the subject of old age, decrepitude and mental imbecility, rather than the specially authorized “servant of Satan,” long and many years after the New Testament had been recovered from its too careful conservators, and scattered far and wide among the people? But time works wonders; and as light diffuses the very foot-prints of the messengers of darkness fade from the face of earth!—All we have attempted to show by these illustrations, is, that however sudden and effectual the first and great efforts that introduce reformatations, still their final consummation is but a thing of gradual growth under favorable auspices.

Now, there is no reason why medical reformation should differ in its development and progress from those noted above. Medicine being purely founded upon facts and experience, must needs be more slow in advancing, and longer in coming to maturity: if indeed, such a thing as *maturity* can be predicated of a science, which must always change with every new disease, or with the new phases of old ones that must inevitably spring up among different races of men, as they change their climates, their habits of life and their occupations.

The reformation which, about sixty years ago, took place in our science, has been steadily progressing, in every respect, ever since; and seems to obey the laws, or yield to the necessities, which govern and modify all similar movements, whilst plodding its onward way through evil and good report; in spite of determined and often ungenerous foes without, and many imprudent and incompetent, though well-meaning friends and advocates within. As we look to the literature of a nation for its progress and history, so it is to the books of our school in this country we must look for the facts that lead to this conclusion. And as “the written letter remains,” and our writings may any day be brought up in evidence for, or against our

system, we believe we can do no better service to the cause, than by taking a retrospective glance at the records of our science since it was introduced into this country, and openly and candidly avowing how much can fairly be endorsed by us, and how much we feel bound, in self-justification, to disown and put aside, as forming no part of our literature.

There are so many examples of childish folly and silly superstition—demonstrating a total want of, and disregard to, sound medical science—in some of our earlier records, that we are almost daily made to blush for them by those opponents who are too much in the habit of overlooking great virtues and dwelling upon small vices. And to cut even this narrow ground of argument from under their feet, we have determined to take up our goose-quill and, with a few brushes of its feathers, wipe out, or nullify these exceptionable acts of old and partially enlightened legislators. And if they, their followers or their descendants, should feel aggrieved when we are compelled to raise a smile at their expense—for that is all the mischief we mean them—they must forgive us for the sake of that good cause for which they, like ourselves, should be ready to sacrifice even a little feeling. But should they not meet us in this spirit, we shall try how we may outlive their frown, and survive even their *malice*—whilst we answer them and all objectors with this argument and apology:—“*Not that I loved Cæsar less, but that I loved Rome more.*”—“*I have done no more to Cæsar, than you should do to Brutus.*”—And, as before remarked, if we may not at all times be able to suppress a smile, we shall be fair, candid and charitable, make full and ample excuse for human frailty and short-comings, and consistently with the just claims of our cause,—*which is above all*,—pass over every thing but palpable error and downright folly.

We must, according to our plan, first direct the attention of the reader to a small *duodecimo* edition, published at *Allentown, Pa.*, in 1835, called “THE HOMEOPATHIST, OR DOMESTIC PHYSICIAN,”—as we know of nothing produced in this country at a prior date—a circumstance not at all to be regretted, if, as may be naturally supposed, an earlier effort must needs have been more feeble. Taking the book as a whole, and making full admission for all it contains worth the perusal even of those for whom it was intended, it can only be a cause of sincere regret to our school at large that such

a production should ever have gone into the world in our name. We doubt not but even the author himself will now agree with us in this opinion. But we must defer our special criticism of it till next month.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

TRANSFORMATIONS AND PROPERTIES OF MATTER.

BY JOHN F. GEARY, M. D.

"Sunt quibus in plures jus est transire figuras."—OVID.

The varied capabilities of matter to mould and adapt itself, to be moulded and adapted to the infinite and wondrous forms, appliances and creations which spring in rapid and ceaseless profusion from the mysterious laboratory of nature, may well claim the frequent and close attention of the medical philosopher. To him, in an especial manner, "Nature is the kindest mother still!" It is only from her teeming and ever-open bosom he can reasonably hope to draw the nourishing and wholesome food which shall support and strengthen his professional existence, and enable him to minister life and vigour to those who must interrogate him as the priest who always stands before her altars. Her overt and palpable phenomena force themselves upon the observation of the most heedless, whilst her private workings and hidden wonders reveal themselves only to patient toil and searching scrutiny—aided by the nicest and most ingenious mechanical adjuvants—to frequent and numerous experiments, whose failure and unexpected results often discourage the most persevering, and check the most indomitable. But those silent and unseen laws which bring about these wondrous results, are equally hidden from the mental vision of the sage whose mind is wearied and body wasted in labour, in watching, in fasting at the feet of his goddess as from him who

"Whistled as he went for want of thought."

Still, under the guidance of these unseen and inscrutable laws, which baffle human genius, matter visibly yields with surprising ease and elasticity to wind itself into a planet, to congest itself into a chain of mountains, to organize itself to an elephant, refine itself to

a diamond and reduce itself to the primary atom that is only revealed to the curious scrutiny of the microscope! Wherever we turn, or whatever we investigate, through the wide domain of the material universe, these restless, ceaseless changes meet our eyes and challenge our unbounded admiration!

Does the earth heave and roar beneath our feet,—shake a continent and swallow cities into its yawning abyss, does the restless ocean roll its billows to the stars and settle down into a tranquil calm,—does the sun pour down his scorching rays and call the invisible vapours to the skies,—do the clouds gather into dark restless masses,—does the electric flash blaze from their bosom,—the thunder crash and “terrify the nations,”—do the rains descend in torrents,—does the hail sow the land with evanescent grain—crops—do the snow-flakes glide upon the air and veil the sun till the fields have put on their wedding garment for glory and for beauty!—all is but matter assuming different forms, preparing to accomplish new destinies,—glowing, fermenting, dividing, combining, attracting, repelling, dissolving to liquid forms, or crystalizing to adamant!

That Mighty Alchemist, the Genius of matter, is at work in his laboratory, presiding over his furnace! Shall we sit at his feet, watch a few of his experiments and receive a few of the great facts which fly, like scintillations, from every touch of his anvil and every stir of his crucible? He is demonstrating great truths for the good of the human family!

Sitting then at the feet of our Archididascalus, we see that under his hand matter yielding an unhesitating obedience becomes the creature of his will, and that whether it be his pleasure she should form granite boulders, coal-fields, or sand-stone, earth, water, or fire, it is done! Whether a ray of light shall gleam, or a fixed star become a way-mark in the heavens for ever, whether an ocean shall shut in the solid globe, or the poison-drop glisten on the sting of an insect; she is still obedient, plastic, all-sufficient! Whether he desire a comet to blaze and traverse the universe, to return after the lapse of ten thousand centuries, the ovum to burst from its mystic cell and grow into a philosopher or a hero, or a daisy to gem the turf, she, the great and prolific parent of all things, is his humble servant. So that whether we observe matter as a whole or in part, in masses sufficient to compose worlds, or in primary atoms, we see the same great laws rule, direct and determine the action of each

individual particle to accomplish its mission with undeviating exactness and promptitude!

And when this great Master Spirit, which “controls the atom and aggregate of nature,” desires the existence of that wondrous combination of matter with the still higher endowment of spiritual and intellectual being, deposes him to take a subordinate station in developing the powers of matter for new and different ends and to subserve widely different purposes, we see with equal astonishment that this journeyman of Nature evolves properties, uses, forms, existences and wonders, second only to those which the powers of the Master hand could call forth! Matter is as pliable and fruitful in the hands of Man as in those of the great Architect of the Universe, as far as the limited powers of the former can develop her hidden attributes. In the hands of the chemist and the mechanic matter undergoes those transformations by which we can demonstrate by analogy the stupendous wonders which take place in the laboratory of nature. In reasoning from the less to the greater we arrive at the conclusion, that in both cases she obeys the same laws and displays similar phenomena. But let us at present confine ourselves to two properties of matter, namely, *division* and *combination*, or the susceptibility of being divided and combined according to certain laws and by certain forces.

And, perhaps, there is no law in physics which has so close a bearing upon medical science, and which it is more important that the medical student should so clearly comprehend, than that which governs the *divisibility* of matter. Ours are not only days of rapid and mighty progress, but days of wild fanaticism and restless speculation. The student should clearly and fully understand how much he may reasonably expect from matter in all the changes it may undergo by division or combination:—and even when nature and art have united to evolve its latent powers,—reason, experience and science only should be trusted to define the bounds beyond which he cannot safely travel, except in search of fictions and hypotheses which must end in delusion and disappointment. It is by such a rational faith, founded on the immovable basis of science, that he can be saved from stolid unbelief and ignorant scepticism on the one hand, and from unfounded aerial and fanciful theories on the other;—which are indeed but offspring of the empty ravings and wild excur-

sions of a fancy guided only by partial flickerings of the light of truth.

Art, following the example of Nature, in the act of combining large masses of matter, finds neither limits nor obstructions to her energies, and matter yields with the utmost flexibility to her ambitious projects. Palaces, temples, pyramids and cities, that promise to become coeval with time, spring up from chaotic heaps congested in apparent confusion, but which under the cunning hand of art and genius, fall into order, symmetry, beauty and sublimity; as if each dead and inert mass were a thing of life and thought, conscious of its own powers and high destinies. When the widest rivers, or even arms of the sea, must be spanned, that migratory towns and villages may pass over them dryshod, the mother of all things readily offers the appliances to construct the desired aerial avenue;—and from small particles and detached pieces, springs the Manai Bridge, the transatlantic steamship and the railroad train of fifty cars. To pursue this part of our illustration would be only to dwell upon phenomena that are ever before our eyes, and court our observation. We must, therefore, turn our attention to that which is more immediately our province, and bears more closely upon our profession—that is, the wonderful revelations which are made through Divisibility, in which, indeed, matter shows herself to be mightiest in her most minute developments.

(To be continued.)

CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS,

BY DR. LUDWIG BATTMAN, IN GROSSENHAIN.

ABSCESS OF THE SCALP.

From the *Allgemeine Homœopathsia Zeitung*, Vol. 50, No. 2.

Translated by J. F. SHEEK, M. D.

Henneberg, a youth aged 15 years, employed in a factory, became soon after Christmas afflicted with an inflammation of the scalp, on the right side of the head, which after violent pain commenced suppurating. In the commencement, the discharge consisted of thick yellow pus, which afterwards became thinner and very foetid; the

pains still continuing. The patient came to me in the commencement of May, after he had been using a variety of plasters and poultices. Through the small opening I could readily pass a probe, and felt roughness on the bone, the scalp was loosened from the bone about one-and-a-half inches in diameter, the hair entirely fallen out, the discharge very foetid, thin, like blood and water, violent pain upon making pressure; however, the patient complained about nothing.—*Silicea*, 3rd. twice a day, about three grains per dose, and in less than three weeks the openings had entirely healed, after which the hair commenced growing again, and the scalp was entirely covered in four weeks. Externally the wound was covered with lint.

FUNGUS ULCER ON THE LOWER ARM.

A girl aged three years, fat and healthy, became afflicted with a swelling, as large as an egg, and with little pain, in the centre of the right lower arm, which through the use of flaxseed poultices and plasters, in the course of several weeks, assumed a purplish red appearance in the centre of the swelling, and fluctuation was plainly perceptible. As the patient was brought to me in this state I opened the abscess, and there was a considerable discharge of thick yellow pus. I ordered it to be dressed with a plaster of white balsam. In about four weeks, or from the commencement of the disease, about eight weeks, the patient was brought to me again; I found that the wound had not healed, but had passed into a spongy, readily bleeding, phagadenic ulcers, which appeared to extend to the ulna. Pain had entirely left since opening the abscess.

Silicea 3rd., was then given to the patient, and in less than three weeks the ulcer had entirely healed, and nothing remained but a slight swelling of the bone, which disappeared without the further use of medicine.

NEURALGIA CRUNILIS.

From the Allgemeine Homœopathia Zeitung, Vol. 59, No. 2.

Translated by J. F. SHEEK, M. D.

Madam Sch., aged twenty-six years, in the eighth month of pregnancy, was suffering with a violent, tearing pain in the left thigh,

along the course of the ischiatic nerves, which appeared at its height in the calf of the leg, and extended to the ends of the toes. The disease, which had been of four or five weeks standing, commenced quite mild—at last became so violent as to cause her to cry out. The violence of the pain commenced at 3 o'clock in the morning, and continued until 5 o'clock; during the paroxysm the veins, especially of the affected part became much enlarged. Before and after the paroxysm the patient slept; and during the following day she felt weary and exhausted. During the paroxysm the patient could not remain in bed, but kept wandering from place to place with continued moaning, which afforded no relief.—*Rhus toxicodendron*, 2nd., dilution, two drops every three hours. The first night the paroxysm was somewhat mitigated, the two following nights the attacks were as violent as they had previously been.—*Sepia*, 3d trit. three grains three times a day, after which only one violent paroxysm occurred, and the patient was cured.

PROSOPALGIE.

A shoemaker, named N., experienced already for several weeks a pain in the left side of the face, which returned periodically each day. In the beginning it was not very violent, so that M. N. could attend to his work. During the last five days the pain became so violent that he had to take to his bed. The pain was throbbing, and commenced in the forehead, and passed along the outer portion of the eye over the cheek bone to the lower jaw, and extended to the teeth; another took its course from the forehead and passed along the inner angle of the eye down the nose into the teeth of the upper jaw. The appearance of the patient's face was not changed, except the eyes which were somewhat watery, but painless. The pain continued from nine in the morning until three in the afternoon, after which the patient felt comparatively well except that he was tired. During the violence of the pain there were occasional twitches of the muscles of the mouth and nose. Gave *Belladonna* 2, every two or three hours two drops. The next attack was considerably moderated, the second and third still more so, after which the pain ceased.

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 592, VOL. III.)

ECLAMPSIA.

UNDER this head is included the epileptiform convulsions of children which occur during dentition: 2d, Those that occur during gestation, or during parturition:—

1. *Convulsions of children.*

Prior to two years of age, it is quite common for children to be affected with this difficulty—for the infantile frame, during this period, is extremely impressible, and any exciting cause, such as the irritation arising from dentition, may readily occasion convulsions.

SYMPTOMS.—Sometimes without any apparent dulness or any previous indication, these convulsions may take place; but more commonly, the child will show signs of indisposition for a longer or shorter period previous, and then the child falls suddenly down in a state of insensibility, agitated with convulsions, twitchings of the muscles of the face, and those of the upper and lower extremities; the eyes are turned up, the face becomes livid, and there is at times, slight foaming at the mouth, though seldom.

The unconscious state varies in its duration; when the paroxysm is slight, it may continue but a few minutes, but generally the duration is longer, and the child gradually recovers its consciousness, though sometimes it remains dull and lethargic for hours. The first paroxysm rarely terminates fatally, but the pathological condition of the system may be such that it will follow it until death relieves the little sufferer. Our bills of mortality show, that a large proportion of infants fall victims to this difficulty.

CAUSES.—There exists, undoubtedly, in some children, a peculiarity of constitution that predisposes them to the disease. This peculiarity may be hereditary, or, it may arise from some congenital debility. *Andral* mentions an instance of a family of five children, all dying with convulsions, where the antecedents of the family had never known anything of the difficulty. But as the nervous system is unusually impressible, under the age of two years, it is not difficult to trace the disease to some irritation, either intes-

tinal or from dentition, that may in most cases be the cause of the difficulty. It has been observed, that children having a prominently developed cerebrum, are more subject to convulsions than others; and this is, probably the case; for this development would seem to indicate a fully developed nervous system, and, of course, more susceptible to impressions or shocks from irritation, than those less developed. When very young children are observed to be unusually precocious, with tendency to blush or turn pale suddenly, and under the influence of the most trifling causes, there is reason for exercising undue care with them, for such may be regarded exceedingly liable to convulsions.

Dentition is the most frequent cause of convulsions in children—the irritation produced in the nerves distributed to the gums, being propagated to the nervous centres, and reflected to the muscles, which are thrown into convulsions. Indigestible food in the stomach of a child, may also prove an exciting cause of this difficulty, and even food perfectly digestible, in too large quantities, may have a similar effect, particularly where there is a predisposition to the disease.

Intense mental emotion, such as fright or great terror and severe bodily pain may likewise be reckoned among the exciting causes. Fever will always affect some children in this way, probably on account of the hurried circulation which it occasions. A constitutional tendency to hyperæmia on the part of some children, occurring at certain seasons, during the first four or five years of life, proves the source of convulsions, which often excite the apprehension of parents as to the final result; but as the frame has acquired more vigor—becomes more developed, the difficulty as well as the tendency has disappeared.

Most children that die of convulsions, afford no evidence from autopsy, of disorganization of the brain, at least so far as examination has been made.

TREATMENT.—A disease exhibiting so much of an alarming character, requires decisive and very prudent treatment. If there is just grounds for suspecting the cause, the treatment, of course, will be with reference thereto. The resort to the warm bath at first when the convulsion has made its appearance, may in a majority of cases be commended; but its effects are only palliative and should be followed up by the administration of well chosen remedial agents.

The remedies that have proved the most effectual in the treatment of convulsions in children are, *Belladonna*, *Cantharis*, *Causticum*, *Chamomilla*, *Cina*, *Ignatia*, *Nux Moschata*, *Nux Vomica*, *Phosphorus*, *Platina*, *Stramonium*, *Sulphur*, &c.

In children of obstinate disposition, given to crying and howling as from rage, who manifest anguish and restlessness before the spasm, and who have convulsive motions and spasms of single limbs, and of the whole body, and who appear to have considerable heat in the head, flushed face, wild and wandering looks, or half-open, protruding, or staring eyes,—*Belladonna*.

In some cases, where children from the irritation of teething, become troubled with urinary difficulties,—especially such as are of yellow complexion, or pale face, with tendency to erysipelatous eruptions upon the cheeks—and when the body appears to be exceedingly sensitive all over,—and when the spasm appears to come on from strangury,—*Cantharis*.

For children of unsteady gait, and constantly liable to fall down, who are full of fear at night, and liable to spasms from irritation of the stomach, either from over-eating or from indigestible food, and in children of large abdomen and habitual or chronic constipation, involuntary emission of urine, with numbness of single parts, contraction of single limbs, convulsive motions and twitchings,—*Causticum*.

For the most part, when spasms in children arise from the irritation of teething, affecting both the internal and external organs—especially when the child lies insensible changing its color frequently, with cough, rattling, yawning and stretching; or, when the spasm seems to come on violently in children, or new born infants, and especially when there has preceded the spasm a feverish condition of the system—very restless—moaning and tossing about; and also, if in new-born infants the spasm has been preceded by violent crying, or if after, they lie in sopor, or half sleep,—*Chamomilla*. Another indication for the use of *Chamomilla* is screaming, starting and tossing about during sleep. This remedy seems to be particularly adapted to children, when the whole nervous system is very irritable and sensitive, predisposing them to spasms or convulsions. Frequent fevers and bowel complaints often deteriorate the feeble frame of infants during dentition, so as to bring about an excessive ner-

vous irritability,—*Chamomilla* has been found one of the most useful and effective remedies to meet these conditions.

When the spasm appears to be general, twisting the head and trunk in every direction, with striking about of the limbs—occasional violent jerks through the whole body, more particularly perceived in the hand and epigastric region, with stamping of the feet, jerking of the head upwards and backwards, and particularly if the child has manifested any symptoms of a vermicular affection—*Cina*.

Ignatia may be employed to cure children of eclamsia, when the spasms come on from teething, fright, or mortification.

Nux Moschata is a valuable remedy for eclamsia in children—better suited to those of feeble constitution and scrofulous diathesis, frequently troubled with *Diarrhœa* from debility,—and violent palpitation of the heart.

Nux Vomica seems best suited when the eclamsia has been brought on by cold or indigestion. When eclamsia appears to set in when the weather changes, in children afflicted with great nervous debility and contraction of single limbs, and especially when there is tendency to rush of blood to the head, or the patient is suffering from some gastric complaints, *Phosphorus* may prove an efficient remedy.

Platina will be found a valuable remedy in cases of extreme debility, where the eclamsia does not appear to result from any local irritation, but from general debility and prostration of the nervous system.

Stramonium has been administered with great apparent benefit, in eclamsia, especially if there has been any suppression of cutaneous eruption, or when the spasm has been brought on by fright.

Sulphur is a remedy often called into requisition for children of strongly marked psoric constitutions, and in many attacks of eclamsia, where other remedies appear to be indicated, a single dose of sulphur may prove of service.

There are other remedies, such as *Aconite*, *Arnica*, *Mercurius*, *Pulsatilla*, *Veratrum*, &c., that may be consulted in the treatment of eclamsia in children.

DIET.—It is requisite that the digestive organs should be guarded with great care; and when parents are aware that their children are predisposed, or are habitually inclined to eclamsia, the physician should enjoin upon them the duty of withholding all sweet meats—such as preserves, candies, &c., &c., and all substances of

difficult digestion. The food should be of a pultaceous character—such as will sufficiently nourish the child without being a severe tax upon the digestive organs.

2. ECLAMPSIA IN PREGNANT AND PARTURIENT FEMALES.

Females either in the pregnant or parturient state may be attacked with convulsions decidedly of a hysterical character—but those most frequently met with in these conditions are epileptiform. The average number of females thus affected is not great; according to Churchill and others, not more than one in six hundred.

SYMPTOMS.—The symptoms that usually characterize convulsions at the latter period of utero-gestation, and during parturition, are, with the exception of the *aura epileptica*, essentially those of epilepsy. It is also observed that similar premonitory symptoms in other respects are witnessed. In the convulsions, however, that occur during the latter period of gestation, and during parturition, there is evidence of a greater vascular hyperæmia, as indicated by the tumefaction of the face and the injection of the blood-vessels of the tunica conjunctiva. Sometimes an intense pain in the forehead has been described as an important premonitory symptom—and also a severe pain in the stomach. The difficulty, however, sometimes comes on without warning—the pupils become dilated, the face tumid, the conjunctiva injected—and the patient temporarily convulsed; the respiration at first is irregular, the teeth being closed, the respiration forming the frothy secretion is at first hissing, but afterwards almost suspended. The paroxysms are usually short, lasting only a few minutes,—the convulsions exhibiting less and less violence, gradually subside, and at variable periods after, the disordered movements cease, and the patient becomes quiet; but usually with a pulse much accelerated. Frequently consciousness is entirely restored, leaving the patient with headache and great debility. But in more unfavorable cases, the consciousness is not restored, and the confused condition of the intellect remains apparent. In other cases there is total insensibility, with stertorous respiration.

It has been observed, that there is usually a return of the convulsions after an uncertain interval, and then will succeed another interval. This alternation may take place several times in the course of twenty-four hours.

When convalescence is the result, recovery may take place very gradually; the patient remaining in a state of coma for some time, and when there has been considerable modification of the functions of the encephalon, the patient may continue deaf, or blind, and even motionless and speechless.

In some cases of a fatal termination, the patient may lie in a comatose state for some time, and ultimately sink away and die, with an exhibition of symptoms greatly resembling those of apoplexy.

In some cases the disease manifests a fatal character from the very onset, and the patients never speak or show the most obscure indications of reason or sensation. They apparently sink at once into an apoplectic sleep and die.

Those cases of convulsion occurring during labor, are apt to engender abdominal inflammation, if not carefully guarded against by the practitioner.

Puerperal convulsions are always regarded of an exceedingly dangerous character. Dr. Churchill collected statistics that would go to prove that about one in every four cases proves fatal; and even when the patient recovers, there is no assurance seemingly, that she will not be more liable to similar attacks in her after pregnancies.

CAUSES.—It would seem from facts elicited by observation, that the causes are not always apparent. The seat of the irritation may be in the uterus, stomach, or bowels, from whence it acts upon the great nervous centres, producing the convulsions. It has been ascribed to mental emotions—rush of blood to the encephalon during uterine contractions—to the use of stimulants during pregnancy, and at the time of parturition—and by some, the cause is assigned to atmospheric influence, but in a majority of instances the causes are obscure. Post mortem appearances of the encephalon seldom disclose anything to rely upon as the cause, though in some instances the vessels have been turgid with blood, and in others serum has been found effused in the ventricles, or in the cavity of the arachnoid.

TREATMENT.—For the homœopathic treatment of eclamsia in pregnant and parturient females, the following group of remedies may be consulted: *Argentum, Belladonna, Cantharides, Causticum, Chamomilla, Cicuta, Helleborus Niger, Ignatia, Nux Moschata, Nux Vomica, Phosphorus, Platinum, Stramonium and Sulphur.*

In epileptiform attacks, during pregnancy, when the patient has complained of pains as if bruised, especially in the small of the back and the joints of the lower extremities, raw and sore pains of the internal organs; and when the patient is subject to anxiety and lowness of spirits, vertigo, with obscuration of sight, pain in the occiput, stupifying pressure in the fore part of the head, paroxysms of compression in the brain with inclination to vomit, and burning in the pit of the stomach when standing, bleeding of the nose, heartburn, &c.,—*Argentum*.

When the spasmodic attacks are attended with stiffness of the whole body in highly excitable temperaments, and particularly if the spasms occur during parturition, and the patient has clenched hands, or, when the attack appears to rise from rush of blood to the head,—*Belladonna*.

When the patient is faint, weak, and excessively sensitive all over, with trembling desire to lie down, and is threatened with convulsions, or even if convulsions do occur during pregnancy, and especially if there is retention of urine, or spasmodic pains in the bladder before the attack, and there has been a complete loss of appetite and aversion to food, and burning eructations, increased by drinking, or when there has been any inflammation of the kidneys,—*Cantharides* may be consulted.

Causticum may be employed with advantage when there is convulsive motions and twitchings, and spasm—and when coffee appears to aggravate the sufferings, and when there is an intolerable restlessness of the whole body; and when the patient is melancholy and disposed to weep,—full of fear at night, and complains of stiching pain in the temples, pressure in the eyes, roaring or buzzing reports in the head, and particularly in the ears.

Chamomilla is one of the best remedies that can be called into requisition, for spasms in pregnant or lying in females, subject to debility and nervous restlessness; it will be found unusually applicable to the various ailments of females, during the delicate period of gestation, and also during parturition.

Cicuta has been regarded a useful remedy for spasmodic pains of various kinds during pregnancy and parturition. It has been successfully employed when the patient has been attacked with general convulsions, and also, when the patient has complained of jerks through the head, arms and lower limbs, resembling electric shocks.

Helleborus Niger may be consulted when the patient manifests an oedematous condition of the lower extremities, and great debility and convulsions supervene, and a convulsive movement of the muscles; and also when the patient manifests a silent melancholy, or excessive anguish as if she would die.

Ignatia for confused feeling in the head with sensation of suffocation, convulsions, spasmodic and compressive pains.

Nux Moschata, when the patient is subject to fainting fits, hysteric paroxysms and convulsions, either during pregnancy or parturition—and particularly if she manifests excessive languor, either in the knees or small of the back, and drowsiness before or after the spasms.

Nux Vomica, when there is gastric and bilious derangement and congestions, and tendency to convulsions; convulsions or spasms followed by paralytic weakness. This remedy is the most suitable for females of sanguine or choleric temperaments, subject to much nervous irritability, and rushes of blood to the head.

Phosphorus may be found useful, when there is a complication of chest affections, and a tendency to catarrhal fevers and lung complaints. This remedy is for the most part to be consulted as an adjunct to those well suited to spasmodic difficulties, when the symptoms that indicate its use are present.

Platina is especially suitable for females, subject to frequent trembling and palpitation of the heart—excessive debility and uterine weakness, attended with spasms without loss of consciousness,—and also, when there is mental derangement after a convulsion, and when there is involuntary weeping and extreme anguish about the heart, with fear of approaching death, or general lowness of spirits.

Stramonium, when there is trembling of the limbs during labor, and convulsions with loss of consciousness.

Sulphur, when there is some impairment of the senses, such as deafness, loss of sight; and also, when the memory is impaired, after the patient has suffered from convulsions.

It has been suggested that females, suffering from eclamsia during pregnancy, should be as exempt from irritations of every kind as possible, and in a darkened room away from noise; and that they should not be allowed the free use of watery drinks, and but little food of any kind.

EPILEPSY.

This disease has a striking resemblance to eclamsia; it manifests itself in paroxysms, sometimes periodically, but generally at irregular periods.

SYMPTOMS.—The premonitory symptoms are usually such as foretell nervous affections in general. One or more of the senses may be depraved; flashes of light or dark spots before the eyes—tinnitus aurium, vertigo, confusion, or slight mental aberration, headache, numbness of some part of the body, as a finger or toe; a disagreeable itching or formication; palpitation, or irregularity in the action of the heart, with violent pains in the chest; vomiting occasionally. Most writers have described a peculiar sensation, denominated, the *aura-epileptica*, as a premonitory symptom. It is said to be a sensation originating in the extremities, as if the air were passing upwards to the heart or brain, and when it reaches either of these centres of vital action, the patient immediately falls—deprived of consciousness—and the paroxysm commences.

But whether there has been any precursory symptoms or not, the epileptic falls suddenly—sometimes uttering a distressing cry—deprived of all sensation, volition, or mental manifestation of any kind. Sometimes the patient will moan when the attack comes on; at other times he will run or jump, and move about rapidly before he falls.

French writers distinguish this disease into three varieties.

1st, *Grand Mal*, when the patient falls in perfect epilepsy.

2d, *Petit Mal*, when there is vertigo, confusion and partial convulsions.

3d, *Absence*, when there is no convulsion, but simply loss of sensation and intelligence.

It would seem, however, that this distinction depends entirely upon the severity of the symptoms.

When the symptoms are severe, the face appears tumefied and livid; the eyes turned up and fixed; the pupils dilated or contracted, and immovable; the jaws are so firmly brought together as sometimes to injure the tongue. The convulsions are for the most part general, affecting all the voluntary muscles, though sometimes those of one side are more affected than those of the other. The inspiratory muscles likewise participate in the convulsions; the respira-

tion becomes hurried and laborious; short inspirations, frequent and loud. Sometimes the circulation does not appear to be affected, though generally it is much disturbed; at times the respiration seems temporarily arrested. The violence of the distortions does not usually last many minutes, before it begins to diminish. The redness of the face disappears, and the face becomes pale; perspiration begins to appear upon the surface, and the patient manifests great prostration; and generally devoid of consciousness, completely comatose, with loud respiration.

After an indefinite length of time, the patient begins to recover; still complaining of a confusion, lassitude, pains in the head and limbs, and ignorant of what has occurred except from the injuries he may have received during the paroxysm.

Sometimes a furious mania succeeds, which may last for several days. This has been termed mania epileptica, or epileptic delirium.

The paroxysms of epilepsy may sometimes occur only once in a year, but more frequently they occur as often as once a month, and sometimes every week; and, occasionally every day and even at shorter intervals. The more frequently they occur the less violent may be the symptoms; the paroxysms not being fully formed. Sometimes there is merely a loss of consciousness, or a slight exhibition of convulsions in the muscles of the face.

When the disease is confirmed, the attacks commonly come on during the night, shortly after the patient has gone to sleep; and he awakes in the morning with no knowledge of his having had an attack, except from the feelings of languor and lassitude with which he finds himself afflicted.

The horizontal position assumed on going to sleep, is supposed to facilitate the flow of blood to the head by the arteries, and thereby occasion the difficulty; but it seems quite as reasonable to suppose, that some modification of the nervous centres themselves during sleep, may favor the epileptic condition.

Prognosis.—In a majority of instances, epileptics have ultimately fallen into idiocy, but when the difficulty occurs prior to the age of puberty, it may terminate in health. The evolution that takes place at this period in the system may change the morbid condition, and the disease may disappear under homœopathic treatment. Cures have been wrought at other and more advanced periods of life, but in many cases after a duration of years, other maladies supervene,

under which the patient sinks. Death seldom occurs during a paroxysm, unless it results from congestion of the brain, or from the severe depression which the violence of the disease has produced upon the system, rendering it totally unable to rally.

Causes.—Young persons are more subject to epilepsy than adults and females, more than males, from which it might seem that feebleness or delicacy of the constitution may render the system more liable to the disease. It is maintained by some that epilepsy is a hereditary disease, but there are doubts of this being true; although in some instances, perhaps, the disease may be hereditarily transmitted.

When there is great mobility and irritability of the nervous system, atmospheric heat may develope the disease.

Among the exciting causes may be reckoned, mental application and emotion, frights, tickling the soles of the feet or sides of children, has been known to bring on the disease; overpowering odors, venereal excesses, great fatigue, vermicular affections, and repressed eruptions, are also classed among the exciting causes.

Meyer supposes that epilepsy may be epidemic in schools of young misses, who have not attained the age of puberty. One being attacked, he asserts, was followed by the same difficulty in others, who were of highly excitable temperaments. Some have supposed that the condition of the moon may exert some influence of the kind, but this superstitious notion is entirely wanting in confirmation.

Disorders of the intestinal canal are common exciting causes; paroxysms frequently occur after aliment of an improper character has been taken into the stomach.

Marshall Hall supposed all convulsive diseases to be affections of the true *medulla spinalis*, and he ranks epilepsy among the centric convulsions, which may be induced by any disease within the spine.

Post mortem researches have disclosed no anatomical characteristics peculiar to epilepsy; although the inference is, that some inappreciable modification of the nervous centres may occasion the disease.

TREATMENT.—During the paroxysm much cannot be done, it must have its course; but when there are premonitory symptoms, well chosen remedies may ward off, or materially lighten the attack. The disease is by no means to be regarded as incurable, when it

occurs previous to the age of puberty, nor yet when it arises as a sympathetic affection.

Its occurrence after the age of puberty, as a constitutional or hereditary infirmity, forbids the hope of a speedy cure. It having been of long duration, would argue that it is difficult to bring about a cure. Treatment, however, under the most discouraging circumstances, may prove useful in lengthening the intervals between the attacks, and also in mitigating the violence of the attacks when they occur.

The remedies generally found most useful in the treatment of the malady are, *Aconite*, *Arnica*, *Argentum Nitricum*, *Belladonna*, *Calcarea*, *Causticum*, *Cicuta*, *Cuprum*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Ignatia*, *Nux Vomica*, *Opium*, *Silicea*, *Stramonium* and *Sulphur*.

Aconite, when there is a full bounding pulse, in the commencement of an attack; and also, when the subject is of a plethoric habit, and of sanguine temperament, and particularly if there is feverish heat about the head, and vertigo.

Arnica, when before the attack there is a disposition to yawn, and the patient seems wearied and fatigued; and also, when the attack has been excited by a blow or fall. This remedy is also useful after the convulsion has passed off—when the patient feels sore and fatigued, with a sensation in the extremities, as if bruised.

Argentum Nitricum. This remedy has been used between the attacks, when the epilepsy has been complete; when there is a sensation as if the limbs would go to sleep, and when very weak and weary as if worn out and exhausted. It also may be administered during an epileptic attack when the convulsion is violent, producing a paralysis of the extremities; and when there is much tenacious mucus in the mouth, or else when there is a dry tongue; and particularly when the face exhibits a sunken pale or bluish appearance, and the patient looks sick and exhausted.

Belladonna. At the commencement of an attack, when there is a crawling and torpor in the upper extremities, jerking of the limbs, especially of the arms; convulsive movement of the face, eyes and mouth, rush of blood to the head with vertigo; bloatedness or redness of the face, or, on the other hand, paleness and coldness of the face, with shivering and dread of light, with fixed look of the eyes, dilated or contracted pupils; or when the eyes are convulsed, obstruction of the throat, rendering the patient unable to swallow;

foaming at the mouth, involuntary discharges from the bowels and of urine, oppression of the chest, and anxious respiration; great tendency to a recurrence of the fits from the most trivial excitement or contradiction, loss of consciousness; sleeplessness after the fit, great restlessness and tossing about, or lethargic sleep with grimaces and smiles, and waking with starts and cries.

Calcarea, when the fits occur in children of a scrofulous diathesis, or from suppressed eruptions, and the attack commences with severe headache, confined mostly to one side of the head or the occiput. This remedy may also be employed in the treatment of females, subject to attacks of sick headache, ending in epileptiform convulsions. It may be followed with *Pulsatilla* or *Belladonna*.

Causticum, when there are convulsive motions and twitchings, contractive or burning cardialgia, and epileptic spasms; and particularly when there is preceding the attack a violent headache from getting heated; spasmodic tension of the brain, and oppressive headache and twitching of the upper lip, pressure and burning in the eyes, distension of the abdomen, and involuntary emission of urine, and constipation of the bowels.

Cicuta, when there is vertigo, as if the patient would fall, spasmodic affections of various kinds, general convulsions and epilepsy in parturient or pregnant females. It is suited to females of pale faces, with cold extremities, subject to scurvy, suppurating eruptions upon the skin or hairy scalp, and in front and behind the ears; violent thirst, burning pressure at the stomach, and anxiety at the pit of the stomach, frequent thin stool, and frequent urging to urinate, jerking and twitching of the arms and fingers.

Cuprum, when the commencement of the fit is in the fingers and toes, or in the arms, or retraction of the thumbs; and when there is loss of consciousness and speech, salivation, sometimes of a frothy character, eyes and face red, when the fits occur at the menstrual period.

Hyoscyamus, when the face is bloated, and when there is a bluish color of the lips, foam at the mouth, prominent eyes, convulsive movement of certain limbs, or of the whole body, violent tossing about, retraction of the limbs, renewal of the fits in attempting to swallow the least portion of liquid, cries, *grinding* of the teeth, loss of consciousness, involuntary and unnoticed emission of the urine,

cerebral congestion, deep and lethargic sleep, with stertorous breathing.

Ignatia, when the attack is brought on by grief; convulsive movements of the limbs, eyes, muscles of the face and lips, throwing of the head; retraction of the thumbs, bluish or red face, or red on one cheek and paleness on the other, or redness and paleness alternately, frothing at the mouth, spasms in the throat and larynx, with threatening of suffocation, difficult deglutition, loss of consciousness; frequent yawning or drowsy sleep, great anxiety, and deep sighs between or before the attacks, daily paroxysms.

Nux Vomica, when there are shrieks, throwing back of the head, trembling or convulsive jerks of the limbs or muscles; renewal of the paroxysms after contradictions and disappointments, or from anger; unnoticed emission of urine and passing of fæces, sensation of numbness of the limbs, vomiting, profuse perspiration, costiveness, ill humor during the intervals between the paroxysms.

Opium, when the fits occur at night, or in the evening—throwing back of the head, or violent movement of the limbs, particularly the arms; loss of consciousness, clasped hands, and deep somnolency after the paroxysm or fit.

Silicea, in chronic epilepsy, may be useful after *Calcarea*, when the fits occur at night.

Stramonium, when there is throwing back of the head or convulsive motion of the limbs, and especially the upper portion of the body and the abdomen; haggard and pale face, stupid expression, bloated appearance of the countenance, red face, unconscious, insensible, and sometimes cries, screams, &c., &c., when the sight of brilliant objects, or contact brings on the fits. This remedy may be used after Aconite or Belladonna; or in alternation, with *Calcarea* or Sulphur.

Sulphur, when the aura epileptica is manifest, which is denoted by sensation, as if a mouse were crawling over the muscles.

When the patient is attacked, he should be placed in a horizontal position, and such precaution should be taken, as will obviate any injury that may result from the violence of the convulsive movements. It is always commendable to insert something between the jaws, to prevent the tongue from being bitten. If in males, the cravat should be loosened or removed, and the clothes also should be made loose about the chest. If in females, the lacings of stays

and corsets should be removed; cold water may be sprinkled over the face, especially when the breathing is much affected by a spasm of the muscles concerned in respiration.

DIET AND REGIMEN.—There are few things more pernicious than a resort to stimulants, for persons subject to epilepsy; for it is seldom that more can be effected by their use, than a mere temporary relief—while a positive injury is inflicted upon the depressed nerves—and an obstacle is thrown in the way of recuperation. The patient should be restricted to a plain diet, easy of digestion; food should be taken only in moderate quantities. A generous diet may be allowed to persons whose digestion is good, and whose systems are weak and exhausted, and require substantial nourishment; great care, however, should be exercised not to overload the stomach, and between the paroxysms, excesses of every kind should be avoided—and above all excessive exertion, that is likely to weary the whole system, and predispose it for an attack.

CHOREA.

This distressing disease, usually denominated *St. Vitus' Dance*, is unquestionably peculiar to the nervous system.

SYMPTOMS.—Irregular and uncontrolable movements of different muscles or portions of the body—and sometimes, though rarely, the whole of the body may be implicated. It has been noticed that the left half of the body is affected more frequently than the right. From which it would be inferred that the right hemisphere of the brain is implicated. The affection is not always so extensive, sometimes the muscular motions are limited to a certain part—as to the face, one arm, or to a single muscle. The motions are both strange and fantastical—as for instance, the most singular grimaces and contortions are witnessed, when limited to the face; stammering is also the result when the muscles concerned in articulation are affected. Sometimes the respiratory muscles and those of deglutition are involved in the difficulty—and it has been affirmed even, that the muscles of the alimentary canal and the bladder may be so implicated, as to cause an involuntary discharge of fœces and urine.

It is not usual for the mental faculties to be much impaired unless the disease persists for a long time; under such circumstances the individual may become fretful and capricious, and sometimes, though rarely, there may be some indications of idiocy.

Andral maintains that the nutritive functions are not impaired—but others have observed an unusual torpor of the digestive organs.

During sleep, the symptoms are less marked, and sometimes they appear to be entirely suspended. It has also been remarked that a fit of passion will frequently suspend the symptoms.

The disease seldom comes on without some precursory sign—although in some instances it comes on suddenly. The patient often betrays great irritability of temper, disordered digestion, palpitations of the heart and other nervous indications, as well as twitching of the muscles of the face, extremities, &c.

The duration of the affection is uncertain, sometimes it may last for a few days only, at other times it may continue for months, and even years, even to the end of life, unless some great evolution takes place in the system, as at the age of puberty; under such circumstances the disease may eventuate in health, though frequently it takes another form, such as epilepsy, &c. It is believed, from observation, that homœopathic remedies may often exert a salutary influence in controlling the disease.

CAUSES.—The disease is common to childhood, and for this reason it may be regarded as one of the predisposing causes. It has been observed in the *Hôpital des Eafans* of Paris, that during a period of ten years, that one in two hundred of the children admitted become affected with *Chorea*, from which it may be inferred that the disease is not very common. Professor Reese of New York, is of the opinion that the disease in this country, from some cause, is more frequent than formerly. It prevails the most between the ages of six and fourteen.

Some writers have reckoned among the exciting causes that of masturbation; but as the disease usually occurs previous to the age of puberty, this idea appears to be erroneous. A greater number of females seem to be affected with the disease than males. According to the observation of *Rufz*, in the hospital before alluded to, there were three females to one male, similar observations have been made by other pathologists.

Some pathologists maintain, that a scrofulous diathesis is favourable for the development of the disease, and that it occurs more frequently in rickety children than others; but other authorities maintain, that there is no perceptible difference in the constitutions of those affected and those not affected.

INTRODUCTORY LECTURE

DELIVERED AT THE LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL IN 1855.

BY T. R. LEADHAM, M. D., M. R. C. S., SURGEON ACCOUCHEUR TO THE HOSPITAL.

[From the British Journal of Homœopathy.]

(Continued from page 214.)

While we are conscious that the medical world has been led astray by the too ardent votaries of science, from the habit of simple, close observation of disease, as respects the individuality of the case, and have thus been led by nosologists to treat rather the name of a disease, as an abstract entity, than the real morbid state as detailed by accurately collected symptoms; a practice which has stimulated the minds of those who are called nosological writers to attempt an infinitesimal division of disease, (however much they may abjure infinitesimal division of drugs) with a nomenclature proportionally extensive, and I need scarcely add confusing, we are, nevertheless, aware, that the connection and true value of symptoms cannot be fully appreciated without a knowledge of *physiology*; or their possible and probable results anticipated without a reference to *pathology*. So, likewise, as regards the application of *therapeutics* in the treatment of disease, it has been the fashion to take the sensible properties of drugs, and to form a guess as to the probable effects they might have upon the tissues and organs of the human body; or, from some accidental or experimental effect upon the lower animals, to draw an inference as to their properties and powers, and the part of the system upon which their poisonous qualities were most exploded, and hence to start at once upon an experimental excursion in some human body under the influence of disease. But, is this fair and scientific experiment? Is it not rather a crude operation, beginning in ignorance and ending in confusion; a mere haphazard attempt, without induction, and without result, without a shadow of a physiological connection, and the dimmest outline of a therapeutic action. What wonder then if the *materia medica* of allopathy is found in perpetual change, with nothing stable—nothing definite! What marvel need there be, that remedy after remedy has appeared upon the stage, with vaunted powers for the cure of diseases, has run the

gauntlet of fashion, and ere long dropped neglected, repudiated, and despised, like the beauty of a season who has disappointed the hopes of her admirers.

But such has been the ever recurring process of therapeutical researches; such the fate of the majority of the remedies for disease. So, again, as regards *pathology*, and its bearing upon the *treatment* of disease. Physicians have been ever striving to combat an imaginary *entity*, a supposed morbid state, which could only be guessed at, and must, therefore, always be open to doubt, by means of an equally imaginary *antithesis*, or therapeutic operation in the animal economy; which, of necessity must as often fail as succeed. For, in summing up the virtue of drugs, they habitually resolve them into classes, distinguished by the various active processes or effects which they are found *at times* to induce; such as, sudorifics, diuretics, derivatives, purgatives, expectorants, &c.; and in prescribing any drug with the view to produce some or all of these operations in the system, they do so with the belief that they are counteracting, *antipathically*, a morbid condition, which, with them, has a distinct nosological character, but which, nevertheless, may not exist at all, since we daily find the most experienced physicians deceived upon the pathology of a case. This mode of procedure is, therefore, simply a forcing process, operating upon different parts of the economy, without any real pathological or physiological connection whatever. It was reserved for Hahnemann to trace out and bring to perfection the only true and scientific mode of determining the virtues and qualities of drugs, and of applying them to the cure of disease.

His was, indeed, a method of pure experimentation, and the propriety and correctness of the principle, of proving drugs upon the healthy human body, is fully borne out by the success which has attended the application of the law "*similia similibus curantur*;" which sprung up and dawned upon the mind of Hahnemann, while he was testing the virtues of Cinchona Bark.

Here then, was a physiological and pathological basis—a certain drug was taken in order to note its effects upon a healthy body; it was found to disturb certain functions; to induce definite symptoms; to create a morbid state: the similarity of this state to one which had been cured by the same drug in a smaller quantity led to the inquiry—"Possibly this very similarity *may* be the reason it was cured by

it? and if so, the same result may attach to similar experiments with other drugs?" Patient and long continued investigations confirmed the expectation, and as you are all well aware, consummated the triumph of Hahnemann's sagacity. I say, then, the assertion that homœopathy necessarily sets aside the valuable aid of *physiology* and *pathology*, is an invention of the enemy, and as baseless as the majority of the arguments which have been brought against Hahnemann and his followers. In proof of this, I would only refer you to a perusal of his *Lesser Writings*; and will here only make a single quotation from his popular treatise on Dietetics. He says—"I saw a lying-in woman, who after a difficult labour suffered from intolerable after pains, and a great loss of blood. She cried for coffee, although when she was well she could scarcely endure it.*.*.* Her hæmorrhage *resulted* from atony of the womb, and this from diminished irritability of its fibres, and the specific remedy for this was *coffee*. A few cups of very strong coffee were given to her, and hæmorrhage and pains ceased suddenly. *Opium* would have had no effect in such a case."

This mode of reasoning does not indicate a contempt for physiology or pathology certainly. On the contrary, it is evidence of a mind taking a comprehensive and philosophical view of a simple case, and shows how he at once reasoned through the physiological bearings of the symptoms, until he arrived instinctively, as it were, at the pathological basis to which his remedy applied. But this discourse on dietetics, as it exists in his *Lesser Writings*, is full of similar examples of correct reasoning, and consummate knowledge.

The further development of pathology, is a study of the consequences,—the sequelæ of disease,—and gives us no distinct information of the morbid process as it is going on during life. While, therefore, it is highly necessary that it should be cultivated as a branch of medical study, and bears the same relation to the study of disease, that chemistry and botany do to the study of therapeutics, and, without a knowledge of which the medical education would be very incomplete, it still only unravels to us the terminations of the morbid process, together with the often abortive efforts of nature in her attempts to preserve the integrity and freedom of the organic functions, or, to remove the impediments which the morbid process has left in her way, or, to compensate, in some way or other, for structural alterations. But this is all affected by the operations of

the vital force, that internal instinctive energy which is resident in the organic nerves, which, with a force, in proportion to the amount of organic vigour, either inherent in the individual originally, or still preserved in a partially impaired organ, ever continues to act towards the accomplishment of the organic function in any given organ of the body, and in so doing effects those compensating changes or partial reparations, which enable the organ to continue as an integral part of the body, performing its functions, often feebly and very partially, yet sufficiently to respond to the necessities of organic life.

These changes, then, inform us of the direct and collateral results of morbid action, and of the extent to which the struggle of the vital force has failed to relieve the organs; but as it is the *organic vital force* which presides over the functions, that we have to direct, to stimulate, and to control, and which, if preserved in its integrity would certainly prevent disease, (as we cannot operate upon the inorganic results of morbid action) the extent to which a knowledge of pathology is competent to aid us in the cure of disease, is tolerably well defined, and certainly limited. For example, our pathological studies may enable us in a given simple case, to determine the region within which active disease is proceeding; or, possibly, by the help of some extrinsic evidence of functional aberration, such as an examination of the secretions and excretions, by ocular chemical, or microscopical investigation, may direct us to the organ which is principally or primarily affected; but, beyond this, when extension of disease has taken place into neighbouring tissues, and other organs have become involved in the complex web of chronic disease, the efforts of the wisest are too often unavailing to unravel the catenation of morbid action, and trace to their source the confused mass of symptoms which overlay and obscure the *fons et origo malis*. And, even, if we could arrive by these means at the desired object of research, and expose with unerring faithfulness the original point of departure from health, how little would it, in many of the complicated cases of chronic disease which come daily before our eyes, assist us in arriving at a means of cure, since by the lapse of time, in some instances, and in others, by the abortive efforts of the vital force to preserve the functional and organic integrity, the morbid actions have passed to other organs, and induced a development of phenomena whose predominance demands an equal if not prominent

consideration. This process is, in the language of the schools, called the '*Vis medicatrix naturæ*,' '*The Recuperative powers of nature*,' '*The restorative power*;' brought about by what John Hunter calls '*The stimulus of necessity*,' '*The organic instinctive power*;' or in other words, '*The vital force*.' Well may we say here 'what's in a name!' Nevertheless it is in the due appreciation of this vital force, as exhibited in the physiological actions of the different organs, and of their compensating and subservient relations to each other, that the success of treatment will often depend; and by the regulation of the *juvantia* and *lædientia* of hygienic management, which are the true *auxiliaries* to all treatment, we shall best carry out the wholesome maxim of Bacon, and be the 'servant and interpreter of Nature.'

But in spite of the belief which exists, that this instinctive power of nature is really a *vis medicatrix*, I think it can be easily shown that the contrary is the case, and that the language so constantly held out to students about '*trusting to Nature*,' and '*aiding the efforts of Nature*,' is simply a confession of ignorance, and a refuge from the more dangerous practices in vogue for the suppression or correction of morbid action. *For example.* A copious or superabundant secretion of bile takes place in the liver, it passes off by the bowels as a diarrhœa. To assist nature, a purgative is administered, but this only increases the diarrhœa, and, perhaps, stimulates the liver to a fresh formation of bile, instead of modifying the organic vital force, and so diminishing the functional activity. Is *this* to assist nature? It is much the same as if a horse were driven at increased speed over a barricaded street, instead of being checked, and so enabled to overcome the difficulties of the route.

So again, with an active hæmorrhage, whether of the lungs, nose, or stomach. This is often taken as a natural indication for treatment, and more blood is drawn from the arm, as a safer place; but is that to assist nature to a cure? Is that *natural* indication to be *relied on*? Certainly not. The hæmorrhage has resulted from an obstruction of the circulation in one of the internal organs, caused probably by diminished vital power, or failure of innervation at the part, and consequently a torpid and dilated state of the circulatory vessels. The stream has overflowed its banks, as a result of some impediment having occurred in its usual course, but this, or an increase of this, does nothing towards remedying the evil.

Nature has been unable in these instances to restore the *status quo ante*, and failing this, has forced a way in some other part of the economy, and so allowed an exit, without which, the more important organ would, probably, have been sacrificed. But still there has been no *vis medicatrix naturæ* in action, and the part originally impaired must have the equilibrium of its vital power restored, before a recurrence of the danger can be prevented.

Homœopathy supplies the means whereby it can be accomplished, and in this way aids nature where she is herself incompetent.

Again, let us take another example of the imperfect manner in which the *vis medicatrix naturæ* acts, and how entirely its operations are confined to the supplying a compensation for the morbid action, instead of, as is erroneously asserted by the teachers of allopathic medicines, removing disease. Two men shall have an attack of pleurisy, and in one individual there shall be an effusion of lymph, with consequent adhesions to the walls of the chest; in the other, effusion of serum into the cavity of the pleura, and no adhesions. In the latter instance, it is said, *ex-cathedrâ*, that the effusion of serum is a provision of nature, an effort of the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, to preserve the respiratory organ from the dangerous effects of the former condition.

In either case, *under ordinary care*, the effusion relieves the inflammatory process, as though it had expended its force thus and then subsided; but the real explanation is this, namely, that the result of the inflammatory action is modified in the individuals by the constitutional peculiarities of each, and by *the intensity* of the inflammation, and that instead of its being a *vis medicatrix*, it is a morbid result which the *vis medicatrix* has not been able to avert.

The same thing happens in *peritonitis*, or inflammation of the peritoneum covering the bowels, and the dropsy sometimes consequent thereon. Here we may have precisely the same conditions occurring in different individuals, but to say that either the serous effusion in the one case is an operation of the *vis medicatrix naturæ* to prevent the more serious complications of the other, is a straining of the case to meet an argument, and is not worthy of the name of a theory. On the contrary, it is well known to all present that these morbid results must themselves be submitted to medical treatment, and the *vis medicatrix naturæ* be relieved of the imperfect attempts to restore the healthy state of the system.

Homœopathy enables us in all these cases to preserve and to restore the vital force, and to *remove* the morbid consequences of its abnormal efforts, and to bring about a healthy state of an organ without being dependent upon the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, which means nothing more than the instinctive organic vital force in a state of equilibrium. The only difference to be noticed here is *that* in the case of pneumonia, resulting in exudation into the air cells and producing hepatization; the pressure of the exuded matter, as shown by Professor Henderson, exerts a mechanical obstruction on the capillary circulation in the cells, and so, as it were, puts out the fire and terminates the inflammatory process; but such is not the case in *peritoneal* inflammation. Therefore it cannot be considered as an instinctive preservative process, but as an accidental mechanical result.

I have said thus much about the *vis medicatrix naturæ* because it has repeatedly been asserted by those, who are unwilling to acknowledge that infinitesimal doses can possess any, much less curative action, that the beneficial results which could not be gainsaid, were nothing more than the tendency of nature, by its own instinctive and preservative energy, to recover from disease. But if more were wanted to convince those who favour the convenient theory of a *vis medicatrix naturæ*, I would refer them to that able exposition of the results of the four modes of managing acute disease, namely, by *venesection*, by *Tartar emetic*, by *homœopathy*, and by *the powers of nature*, which has been given to the world by Professor Henderson of Edinburgh, in his unanswerable reply to Professor Simpson, in "*Homœopathy fairly represented*." In comparing the *results* of pneumonia (inflammation of the lungs) as published by Diehl, the average duration of the cases treated by venesection were found to be 35 days; of those treated by Tartar emetic, 28.9 days; and of those treated by the expectant method, 28 days; whilst the average duration of the disease in 43 cases treated by homœopathy was only 11½ days. "This very remarkable result," he says, "places beyond all rational doubt the claim of homœopathy to a high degree of active curative power in pneumonia. The cases under the expectant treatment lasted, on an average, 16 days longer than the homœopathic cases."

But it is to the collective aggregate of the symptoms that we must at last be referred for the only sure basis of the therapeutic

application. Hahnemann has taught us that these are the true expression of the disease, and as these one by one recede, so we have a right to conclude that by degrees the disease itself is subdued; subdued, I say, not obscured or suppressed merely, as is often the practice under the old system of treatment, but withdrawn from the strongholds of the economy, by the cessation of the morbid actions.

But there has been much unnecessary discussion about the application of the therapeutic law and the necessity of an irksome comparison of the detail of the symptoms with the pathogenesis of the remedy.

I fear that in many instances a minute detail of the symptoms as practised by observers is not always a correct exponent of the disease; on the other hand, I believe, that a clear physiological view of an individual case, with an accurate grouping of the symptoms, will easily lead us to the right remedy, and save a vast deal of needless and pedantic labour. I do not wish to undervalue the painstaking research which in many instances of chronic disease is absolutely necessary, but in a vast number of cases we find that groups of symptoms are offsets, as it were, from some peculiar and morbid feature in the constitution of the patient, which, to the practised medical eye leads at once to the remedy,—but without which the fullest catalogue of aches and pains, sensations and expulsions, phenomena and epiphenomena, is incomplete and of little value.

For example, I witness a yellow pustular eruption in a child whose excretions indicate an unhealthy action of the liver, with a cachectic aspect, pallid cheek, and impoverished condition;—some external morbid influence has so impaired the organic power of the liver as to interfere with its function of depurating the blood, consequently it is loaded with carbon, instead of having that element properly eliminated; unhealthy bile of a dark colour is formed, the roseate hue of health is gone, and the cutaneous follicles become inflamed and pustular, in places where the obstruction to the transpiration is the greatest. Here is recognized an instance of *porrigo favosa*, and is any one to be called a routinist because he does not deliberately sit down and recount the symptoms, and compare the pathogenesis of half a dozen remedies, before he ventures to prescribe—aye even a course of medicine, for this oft recurring group of symptoms? If there be any special symptom peculiar to the individual in addition to the more common phenomena, the practised eye should surely at

once discern it, and give it its due proportion of consideration before applying the remedy.

Again, two cases of amenorrhœa shall present themselves; the one a lively, plethoric girl, with flushings of the face; irregular nervous action; cold extremities; pain in the back; palpitation; and headache—indications of a functional derangement from too great excitability of the nervous system, and excess of vital action; to her we may administer *aconite*, perhaps followed by *pulsatilla*, unless the *aconite*, as often happens, effectually establishes the equilibrium of function: while the other is a pale and delicate girl, with cold extremities; shortness of breath, and palpitation of the heart; feeble pulse, and languid temperament; together with a strumous diathesis; here there is evidence of a deficiency of organic vital power in the ovaries. To her we may administer *sulphur*, followed most probably by *pulsatilla*, if the former has not been sufficient to arouse the organic force and so produce the desired result.

In both cases success attends or follows the exhibition of the remedies.

Is any one a routinist because from a repeated observation of such cases, he knows and acts upon the knowledge that similar treatment will be successful in the like cases?

I cannot assent to such a book-worm constraint as some would exercise upon the reasoning faculties, and so give license to our opponents to taunt us with a repudiation of pathology and physiology, and to a blind adherence to a confused heap of symptoms, which require a vast deal of weeding before they can become intelligible to an adherent of the old system.

Nevertheless we *are* guided by the aggregate of symptoms, but we must take care that we include the *whole* of the morbid picture, and thus every individual case will stand upon its own foundation. I see a man with a wound upon his leg—deep, excavated, irregular, and sloughy. Tortuous veins reach it from above, and a red or dusky areola is observed around it; the circumference is likewise indurated; there has been inflammatory exudation into the cellular tissue surrounding some veins; ulcerative absorption has taken place, and an ulcer is the result. Perhaps the neighbouring veins are buncy and tender; the liver is occasionally the seat of pain; constipation exists, and the digestive function is faulty. If we were to proceed to attempt the cure of the ulcer upon this

collection of symptoms, the probability is that we should fail; but there is a sallow complexion and psoric taint to be gathered either from the appearance of the individual or from his history, some other local irritation may attract our notice, and then we may find that the most prominent symptom of the case, namely, *the ulcer*, is the most insignificant feature after all. The deep seated psora must be attacked; the internal disease must be treated; and then probably the *ulcer*, the most prominent external symptom will yield with the rest, and a healthy cicatrising wound be established.

In the recent afflictive epidemic, too, we have had the opportunity, through the beneficent means afforded by this Hospital of comparing, with the most satisfactory results, the treatment of cholera by the homœopathic remedies with the returns of cholera from the other London Hospitals, and without making any more observations than are necessary to show the great superiority of our treatment even in this fatal disease, I will merely state that from the report published in the *Medical Times and Gazette*, in the month of September, it appears that the lowest average of the old school treatment exhibits a loss of 10 out of 25, or a loss of 40 per cent.; and the highest, a loss of 76 out of 130, or about 59 per cent.; while the average loss under homœopathic treatment at the same period was 7 out of 35, or 20 per cent. With respect to the *castor oil treatment*, which has been so lauded by some and decried by others, I can only believe that where it has succeeded, it was in consequence of its homœopathicity; or else, that by virtue of its oleaginous quality, it has acted like oil poured upon the waves of the sea, or by so blocking up the exhalent vessels of the stomach and intestines, (its irritating property being abnegated by the insensible torpor of the collapsed mucous membrane) as to cause an arrest of the current of the fluids to the surface of the stomach and bowels. But the very fact that attacks of cholera have been induced, during the prevalence of the epidemical atmosphere, by doses of castor oil and other purgatives, *must* make it a very doubtful remedy, and the hypothesis put forth by Dr. Johnson, (its great advocate) is so unsound and untenable, that it can give no encouragement to the supposition that it is a specific for cholera. Dr. Johnson argues that the purging is good, that it is *the vis medicatrix naturæ*—an effort of nature to get rid of the poison, and *in the old style of assisting* nature, a purgative is the best indicated remedy; so that by

increasing the loss to the system, we may hope to eliminate the *morbid agent*—the poison of cholera!

But who ever proved that the poison of cholera *was* a material ponderable molecule? or, if it were, how could it be expelled from the blood until the whole mass, the grosser as well as the finer parts of it, were forced out of the vessels? And how does he explain the arrest of the cholera, if combatted in its premonitory symptoms, by the arrest of the *diarrhœa*? So much for the theory; but the practise is one of those chance things with which the history of cholera abounds, and which is found successful in a few cases, and therefore supposed to be useful in all, and ultimately fall into disuse from having no scientific basis to rest upon.

But, gentlemen, it is not so chance a thing, as we all know, in homœopathy. Our remedies vary to a certain extent when applied to different individuals, but are always regulated by the same principle, that of "*Similia similibus curantur*," and are thus apportioned to the exigencies of every case, whether there be the deadly collapse, or the attendant vomitings or purgings, or both. So that our patients may really be said to be *treated* scientifically and judiciously, and not by haphazard, speculative specifics, alike doubtful in their origin and their result.

The comparison is before you, and we need not be ashamed of it.

It is then to Samuel Hahnemann that we are indebted for the most successful means at present existing with which we can meet this terrible scourge, and as our remedies have not changed for twenty-two years, namely, from their application in the epidemic of 1831-32, to that of 1853-54, but hold the same possession of our confidence; we have no reason to doubt that they will continue to be our staff and stay whenever a similar visitation shall recur, and the name of Hahnemann must, therefore, be recorded with perpetual praise, for the time will surely come when it shall possess the citadel of fame, and be revered among physicians far above the names of Mead, and Sydenham, of Huxham, Baillie, and the Hunters. In the language of Tacitus:

"Quidquid ex Agricolâ amavimus, quidquid mirati sumus, manet; mansurumque est in animis hominum, in æternitate temporum, famâ rerum."*

* Tacitus, Agricola.

MORTALITY OF THE SEASON.

We hear it remarked on all sides, not only by physicians, but by others not connected with the profession, that the season has been uncommonly healthy. This is the case, and with the exception of diarrhoea and cholera morbus, which have been somewhat prevalent for the last few weeks, our city may be considered remarkably free from disease. That is, when we consider the extreme heat of the weather—the sudden changes of temperature that have taken place, and the amount of vegetable food that is daily consumed.

In the August issue of the Medical Examiner, there can be found an interesting paper by Dr. Jewell, on the "Mortality of Philadelphia, for April, May and June, 1855." In the article alluded to we find, that within the quarter of the year ending June 30th, including a period of ninety days, there were 2374 deaths returned to the Health Office, thus averaging 26 per day. This number Dr. Jewell states is less by 95 than that returned for the same period in 1854. And that thus far, according to the tabular statements of deaths for the first six months, the city has enjoyed a greater degree of health than during the first half of the previous year; the bills of mortality constituting evidence.

The paper goes on to state, that the deaths from recorded diseases alone have amounted to 1922. The remaining deaths in all 452, are charged to external causes, old age, still-born, debility and unknown.

The excess of deaths in the male sex, amounts to 6.68 per cent. The males number 1268; the females 1106.

"The deaths within the first year of life, not including the still-born, amounted to 512. Within the fifth year 920. Within the tenth year 1031. And within the twentieth 1129. According to these statistics, it appears that 32.62 per cent. of the mortality of our population, took place within the first decade of life, and 33.58 per cent. within the second. These calculations exclude still-born children, which amounted to one hundred and fifty."

The diseases which proved most fatal were those of the organs of respiration, the whole number being 624; five-sevenths of the mortality being caused by Phthisis, Pulmonales, Pneumonia and Bronchitis. The number of still-born children exceeded one hun-

dred, and the deaths from consumption and inflammation of the lungs and debility being added, constitute more than one-third, or 43.36 per cent. of all the deaths for the quarter.

There is also at this season a marked decrease in the number of deaths from affections of the bowels. In the second quarter of last year, the bills of mortality at the Health Office presented 173 deaths from Cholera, Cholera Morbus, Cholera Infantum, Diarrhœa and Dysentery. Whereas the second quarter of this year furnishes but 78—less 38.33 per cent.

The number of persons who fell victims to the small-pox, during the second quarter of this year, is more than double that which is recorded for the whole of 1854.

In whooping cough the diminution of mortality is recorded as three-fourths less than for the same period last year in 1854, the number was 45; in 1855 there were only 10.

Measles have declined 55 per cent.

The deaths from epidemic diseases exhibits a falling off 15.80 per cent. when contrasted with those of similar months in 1854.

The number of still-born children that have been recorded, is greater by 8.30 per cent. than the same period of last year.

Three deaths of centennarians are also mentioned, one of whom had reached her 115th year—truly “the oldest inhabitant.”

The alms-house and the colored population, yielded each about 8 per cent. of the deaths for the quarter.

It will be seen by the above that the city has been considerably more healthy during this, than last year.

HOW TO ARREST HEMORRHAGE FROM A BURST VARIX.

In these accidents the bleeding is from the proximal end of the vein. The valves between the injured spot and the heart are either imperfect or absent, and the coats of the vessels having given way, there is nothing to bear the column of blood above the heart; bleeding must, therefore, continue so long as this column, continues to press upon the wound, and it must cease *if the leg be elevated*.

These remarks were made recently in the London Hospital.—*Medical Times and Gazette, Dec. 16, 1854.*

THE PREVENTION OF SMELL IN GANGRENOUS SORES BY A CHARCOAL COVERLET. *By Mr. Wormald, Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.*

In some cases of hospital phagedæna recently under his care, Mr. Wormald made an ingenious and very useful application of the disinfecting powers of charcoal. It is well known that dry charcoal will effectually absorb any noxious or offensive gas which can be made to pass through it. On this power, Dr. Stenhouse's disinfecting respirators depend for their efficiency. The difficulty in applying it in hospital practice has, however, arisen from the difficulty of keeping it at the same time dry and in a uniform layer around the part giving rise to the effluvia. Mr. Wormald's plan consists in sprinkling freely between two sheets of cotton wool a tolerably thick layer of powdered charcoal, and then "quilting" them together in small segments, so that the powder is retained securely in its place. The pads, thus prepared, may be of any size, according as required to wrap round the end of a stump, or to cover a superficial ulcer. The sloughing sore having been dressed in the ordinary manner, and a little lint or wool so placed as to absorb any discharge which may flow, over all is laid the charcoal quilt, which is then lightly confined by a bandage. It forms, in addition to its disinfectant properties, a very soft and comfortable envelope, more especially if the sore be in such a part that the patient is obliged to lie on it.—*Medical Times and Gazette, July 1, 1854.*

From the Intelligencer.

EDITOR'S INTELLIGENCER :

In the proceedings of the Western Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, recently held in this city, you have omitted, (inadvertently, I presume,) any notice of, or any allusion whatever, to the proceedings in relation to a charge brought against the Rev. Dr. Hunter, for practising medicine on the Homœopathic system, in connection with his ministerial duties.

The substance of his refutation may be found in the following synopsis of his remarks before the Conference.

SPEECH OF REV. DR. WILLIAM HUNTER

Before the Western Virginia Conference, in reply to the objection that he had been engaged in the practice of Medicine, and in consequence had neglected his ministerial duties.

MR. PRESIDENT AND BRETHREN OF THE CONFERENCE :

I have the misfortune to differ, in common with many other brethren, from my respected Presiding Elder, concerning the necessity or propriety of bringing this matter before the Conference in this form. There is no formal charge or complaint, and I am called upon to answer to mere vague objection and idle rumor, coming as I believe, from interested quarters, and having little currency and less credence in the station where I have labored for the last two years.

I make this remark, not to find fault with my Presiding Elder for an honest discharge of what he believes to be his duty, but in order to disclaim all responsibility in bringing it here. It was not at my desire or request, but rather against my remonstrance.

I am no physician; I have never professed to be one; I have *not* “practised medicine” in the ordinary acceptation of the term. I have never “stuck out my shingle”—I have never put my card in the papers. I have never sought publicity in any way. On the contrary I have avoided it. But I confess I have paid some little attention to the study of medicine; this having been found out by the people, I have, when solicited, occasionally, and I may say often, administered medicine, and attended cases of disease; and for this, as I will show fully by and by, I have the example of our illustrious founder, Mr. Wesley.

A number of years ago, while residing in Pittsburgh, I became thoroughly satisfied in my own mind by observation, reading, experience, &c., that the Homœopathic system of treatment was the best—the safest and most effective—I may say the *true* system of medicine. My family were equally convinced with myself, and even more—they would hardly take a dose of any other kind of medicine if they were to die for it.

I bethought me that I was a Methodist preacher, and knew not where my lot might yet be cast—probably remote from a physician, not to say a Homœopathic physician. I thought it became me to look a little into the matter for myself, and to endeavor to understand it well enough at least to administer in simple and ordinary ailments

in my own family. This I did. When I came to the Western Virginia Conference, I came to be a Methodist preacher, and not to practice medicine. Hence I was resolved to say nothing about my "medical attainments"—they were small any how—lest I might get into difficulties. I was appointed to Marion Circuit, and I may as well confess that it was not long before my resolution was broken.

It so happened that in the first house called at, I found the lady sick; but I remembered my resolve. She got worse. There was no physician nearer than five miles; still I stuck to my resolution. At last the lady inquired if I knew anything that I thought would do her any good. Here I was caught; for I could not say that I did not. So I gave her a few pellets of Homœopathic medicine, not telling her what it was; and she did not know, and probably never would have known, if it had not done her good. But it so happened, whether fortunately or unfortunately for me, that the lady, a very intelligent one, thought it did her a great deal of good, and she wanted to know what it was, that she might use it again for the same complaint, to which she was subject.

I acknowledge that in the course of time I had frequent applications for medicine, and that I administered it often. This was a good ways from Morgantown, and my medical fame did not extend that far for some time, although I lived almost in sight of the place, and was there every few days.

But at last it was found out there also. It happened in this way. Having exchanged with the brother stationed in Morgantown, I was spending a Sunday there, and was staying with a good old lady, whose daughter, a married woman, living next door, had been suffering greatly for several weeks past with a neuralgic affection. I heard of her sufferings; but said nothing. Things passed on till after preaching at night. The report was that she was, if possible, worse than ever, notwithstanding all that had been done for her, and that there was no prospect of sleep that night again. Here a very delicate ethical question arose in my mind. Said I to myself,—I have a medicine in my pocket that would probably relieve that excellent lady, for such she was, and a particular friend of mine; but I have resolved not to say anything about the matter, and if I do, and should happen to cure her, I will have the doctors on my back. But shall I let a fellow being suffer when I have the means of relief. So did not the Saviour or his Apostle's, or Mr. Wesley.

My resolution failed again. I told the patient's mother that I sometimes attempted to cure such ailments; and she begged me to do it. I sent her over a little medicine, the result of which was, her sufferings were gone in an hour; she slept well all night, was well the next day, and has remained so ever since—now nearly three years. Well, this could not be kept secret, and the result was, I had applications from others, which I could not conscientiously refuse, although I tried to avoid them.

I would say to them go to Dr. such a one, he is a good physician—quite celebrated, indeed, (for we have celebrated physicians in Morgantown—men whose names are in nearly all the papers in the United States, on account of the marvellous cures which they and their medicines have performed)—go, I would say, to those great physicians—surely, they can cure you. “Why, (some of them would reply) they have been trying for years, and can't do it, and now we want you to *try*.” Or the father would come and say, “I have lost one or two children with this or that complaint under the old treatment. I think there ought to be a better way than this horrible bleeding, blistering, purging, vomiting, &c. I want you to go and see my child and try what you can do for it.” I confess again to the weakness of yielding to such solicitations. I *tried*. With what success does not become me to say. But the fact that complaints have come up against me to this Conference, is rather an indication that I have not been altogether unsuccessful! If I had tried and failed, you would probably have heard nothing of it. Another fact is not insignificant: there are two well qualified Homœopathic physicians in the place, and they have their full share of practice—there were none when I went there.

Now the question is, did I do right or wrong? Was it wrong for me at first to devote any attention to the study of medicine? And having done so, was it wrong for me to administer to the relief of my fellow beings? Did not the Great Master himself heal the sick? Did he not frequently make long journeys for this purpose? Did he not commission his Apostles, the first ministers of the Gospel, to do the same? It is said of Jesus, (Math. iv., 23)—that he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the Gospel of the kingdom; and *healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease* among the people. And (Mark iii., 14,) that “he ordained twelve that they should be with him, and that he might send them

forth to preach and to have power to heal all manner of sickness." Again, Luke ix., 2, it is said "he sent them (the Apostles) to preach the Kingdom of God, *and to heal the sick*"—and v. 6, it is said, "they departed and went through the towns preaching the Gospel and *healing everywhere*." The healing of diseases, therefore, was an original work of the ministry, to which they were called, for which they were ordained and qualified by special endowment. They were, just as much to heal the sick, as they were to preach the Gospel.

But is it alleged that there is something so peculiar in the character, office, and work of a *Methodist minister* that he may not perform this ancient function of the ministry, without violating his vows and departing from his appropriate duties? Let us look into this a little. The Discipline makes it the duty not merely of every minister, but of every Methodist, to do all the good he can "both to the *bodies* and the souls of men." And it is the duty of deacons to "search for and *relieve* the sick:" and one would think if they are qualified to do this *medically* they are bound by their ordination vows to do it; especially to the poor and destitute, as far as they may have the power. And that I do not misinterpret the meaning of this expression will appear, if we look at the example of Wesley himself.

I refer you to his Journals, vol. 5, page 187, where he says: "For six or seven and twenty years I have made anatomy and physic the diversion of my leisure hours," (even Mr. Wesley found leisure hours for the reading of medicine,) "though I never properly studied them, except for a few months when I was going to America, where I imagined I might be of some service to those who had no regular physician." When he saw numberless poor suffering for medical aid, as well as by the unskilfulness of physicians, and the errors of a bad system, he says: "I applied myself to it again and gave notice of this to the society; telling them that all who were ill of chronic distempers (chronic diseases) might, if they chose, come to me at such a time, and I would give them the best advice I could and the best medicine I had; many came; and so every Friday since."

I have not thought myself justified in going quite as far as Mr. Wesley. I have never given notice "to the society," or to the

public that I would give them medical advice or medicine, though I have done so when they applied to me.

Again, Mr. Wesley says: "In five months, medicines were given to above five hundred persons," &c. A pretty large practice!

"We continued this" says he, "ever since, and by the blessing of God with more and more success." Further, in vol. 6, page 689, in writing to a friend he says, "the number of our patients increases here daily. We have now upwards of two hundred." This has more than ever fell to my lot; but I did not advertise.

But the quotation which is most to the point, because it settles the principle mooted here, so far as Mr. Wesley could settle it, and shows that the exercises of his mind in respect to this question were substantially the same as mine have been, is the following:

In vol. 6, page 644, we read: "For more than twenty years I have had numberless proofs that regular physicians do exceeding little good. From a deep conviction of this, I have believed it to be my duty within these few months last past to prescribe such medicines to six or seven hundred of the poor as I knew were proper for their several disorders. Within six or seven weeks nine in ten of them were remarkably altered for the better, and many were cured of diseases under which they had labored for ten, twenty, or fifty years. Now, ought I to have let one of these poor wretches perish because I was not a regular physician? To have said—I know what will cure you, but I am not of the college, you must send for Dr. Mead. Before Dr. Mead would have come in his chariot, the man would have been in his coffin. And when the Doctor was come where was his fee? What! he cannot live upon nothing; so instead of an orderly cure the patient dies, and God requires his blood at my hands."

It was with such views and convictions as these that Mr. Wesley not only studied and practised, but also wrote and published a book of medical practice, containing specifics and simple prescriptions for most of the diseases that "flesh is heir to." This work went through several editions during his lifetime, and a number since. It has been translated into other languages, and I believe printed by piece-meal in public journals for the benefit of mankind. It was among the first and perhaps best attempts at a domestic treatise ever made until the star of Homœopathy arose upon the world.

Read the preface to that treatise—Wesley's "Primitive Physic"

—which you will find in his works, and you will marvel at the low estimate which he sets upon the ordinary medical treatment and the “regular physicians.” He was among the first to denounce that “monstrous system of Polypharmacy,” as Dr. Forbes, an eminent Allopath, has since denominated it, which has so long been crippling the physical energies of the race, and peopling the grave with premature victims.

As to the report that I have neglected my ministerial duties, I cannot believe it comes from the people of my charge or any considerable number of them. But I will answer to it for a moment. As to preaching, whatever may be said of the quality of it, it will hardly be objected that I have not given the usual quantity. I do not recollect that the congregation have been left without preaching for a single Sabbath in the two years, except the one when I was absent at Conference. I was only absent once attending the sick—that was in the case of a particular friend at a distance—and then I had my pulpit supplied. I have seldom missed prayer meeting, and only once or twice in consequence of attending the sick. I have pretty generally been in Sunday School, though not all the time actually engaged as a teacher; yet I made it a point to be present to give encouragement to that good cause. As to the pastoral duties, I may as well “confess judgment,” and acknowledge, as I do with regret, that I am not half as good a pastor as I ought to be. I have spent so much of my ministerial life out of the pastoral work—twelve years in the editorship and four years on a district, that I have not had a very good opportunity of forming pastoral habits—I have had everything to learn in that matter, since I came to the Western Virginia Conference; and have been trying to improve, though I fear I have not made as much progress as I should. This I verily believe, that instead of doing worse by administering medicine occasionally, I have done rather better in consequence; for I have thereby been taken where pastoral visiting was most needed—among the sick and afflicted; and I have an ardent hope that I may in time become tolerably proficient in this department, if I should have sufficient “*practice*.” I will say further, as I may be permitted to do in self-defence, that I have not only visited the sick who were under my own medical care and the treatment which I preferred, but others generally, as far as I had reason to believe that my visits were desired or would be acceptable.

During the prevalence of a typhoid epidemic, which we had, I may say, that I did a good deal of this visiting, as well as on other occasions, some times sitting up with the sick and performing the most menial offices of nurse for those who were under a treatment which I considered—to say the least—*decidedly nasty*.

But I never told them so, nor interfered between patient and practitioner.

In reply to a question from the Bishop, whether his medical services were rendered gratuitously, or whether it was followed as a business, and to make money, Mr. H. replied that it was generally gratuitous. He made no charge; but if a man, who was able, thought that he or his family had been benefitted and chose to give him five or ten dollars, he did not refuse it.

Mr. H. then retired and left his case with the Conference, who, it is proper to say, had the good sense not to inflict any severe censure, but very kindly winked at his offences, considering it rather against the “profession” than against humanity and religion.

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Journal.

Paris, Aug. 3d, 1855.

WM. A. GARDINER, M. D., Philadelphia :

Dear Colleague,—After my arrival in Paris, my first visit was, of course, to Dr. Tessier's hospital. I found that, since my last visit to Paris, Tessier had been removed, in the regular course of promotion, from Sainte Marguerita—the scene of his famous experiments in Homœopathic treatment—to the Hospital Beaujon, a fine, well situated hospital, where he has a service of one hundred beds. The patients are male and female, and present the usual variety of acute diseases; so that Tessier's averages may with propriety be compared with those of the general hospitals of Paris. Tessier's example has had great influence upon the younger members of the profession in Paris, and it will not be long before we shall hear of several Homœopaths in the French hospitals. To my great chagrin, I found that, on the day after my first visit to his hospital, Tessier had obtained a leave of absence for three months, so that I shall have no opportunity for the present to observe his practice.

In London, I found that the Hahnemann Hospital, the second homœopathic hospital in London, has been closed. Of this we were already aware in America. But it would be very wrong to infer

from this, as the Allopaths do, the decline of Homœopathy in London. This hospital was established by personal friends of the late Dr. Curie, from motives of personal regard to him. It was not supported by the general Homœopathic public, nor were they appealed to in its behalf.

On the death of Dr. Curie, his personal friends had no longer any motive for supporting the hospital, and the committee of management, without conferring on the subject with the physicians of the hospital, and without making any endeavor to raise funds, which could have been done without difficulty, at once closed the hospital. The first intimation of their intentions, received by the physicians, was through a placard placed one morning on the door of the building, stating that "on and after that day," the hospital was closed. After some deliberation as to whether the hospital should be reopened, under different management, there being no difficulty about funds or lay patronage, it was thought better to devote the whole strength of the Homœopathic public to the maintenance and extension of the other Homœopathic hospital, to which end the Homœopaths in London are now laboring. In addition to their hospitals, our colleagues in England have been engaged for the past year or two on a work of the very greatest interest to all of us—one better calculated than anything that has yet appeared to supply one of the greatest and most deeply felt needs of the practitioner—a complete and convenient Repertory of the *Materia Medica*. Notwithstanding the many essays made within the last twenty years, a convenient and reliable Repertory is still to seek. Those which make the greatest pretensions to completeness, are so bulky and so inconveniently arranged, that their daily and constant use is quite impracticable, while every author seems to have made the fatal mistake of dividing natural groups of symptoms, as given in the *Materia Medica*, into individual symptoms, without giving any key for the recomposition of the groups, so that the repertories are, in fact, collections of the "*dissecta membra*" of the individuals, which constitute the *Materia Medica*, and one should have the powers of a Cuvier to recompose the individuals. There is no doubt, that by relying on our repertories, we are often from this defect in them, led into errors of practice. The English Repertory has been composed with especial reference to this defect in its predecessors; and from the great learning and well known abilities of those who have had the chief

direction of it—the same colleagues who have so long conducted the British Journal, and given it by far the first place as a Homœopathic Journal, and a very high rank among medical periodicals—we may confidently assume that it will be a much safer guide than any we now possess. The great obstacle in the way of its immediate publication, is the difficulty of inducing any publisher to undertake so expensive a work for the small homœopathic custom of England. In this matter, the interests of America and England are one. The Repertory would be too expensive a work to be re-published in America. It might therefore be subscribed for by such of our American physicians as might desire to possess it, and I doubt not a fair subscription list from America would induce the English publishers to undertake it. Whether application will be made to the American physicians for subscriptions, I am unable to say.

I expect to leave Paris in a few days, for Northern Germany, and shall perhaps have some notes for you, in a few weeks, about the old pioneers of Homœopathy, Stapf and Bönninghausen.

Yours truly,

CARROLL DUNHAM, M. D.

HOMŒOPATHY IN ENGLAND.

In a former number of the Philadelphia Journal we gave some account of an effort which was being made in England to induce Lord Panmure, Minister of War, to allow one of the Hospitals about to be established near the seat of war to be under the direction of Homœopathic Physicians. The documents connected with this application are a part of the written history of the Homœopathy of this age, and as such are worthy of consideration.

The following memorial was drawn up by the committee appointed for that purpose:

MEMORIAL.

“To the Right Honourable Lord Panmure, Her Majesty’s Secretary of State for the War Department, &c.

“MY LORD,—We, the undersigned peers, members of the House of Commons, clergymen, officers of the army and navy, lawyers, merchants, and others unconnected with the practice of medicine, beg to state to your Lordship,—

“That the proposed organization on the part of Her Majesty’s

Government, of civil hospitals at Smyrna and elsewhere, for the treatment of the soldiers and seamen now serving in the Crimea and in the Black Sea, and the circular emanating from your Lordship's department inviting the co-operation of the medical institutions of the metropolis in this beneficent work, have suggested to many who have derived personal benefit from homœopathy, that it would be desirable to secure for those of the sick in our army and fleet in the East who prefer this mode of treatment, the advantages which it affords in the treatment of those diseases of an acute form so unhappily prevalent in the Camp before Sevastopol.

"That the homœopathic system of medicine promulgated in 1796 by Samuel Hahnemann, a German physician, distinguished by his contributions to science, has obtained the recognition and support of several of the leading States in Europe and America.

"That the Legislatures of two of the most important States of the American Union (Pennsylvania and Ohio) have granted charters of incorporation to homœopathic universities to which hospitals are attached; that the chambers of the kingdom of Bavaria, of the Grand Duchy of Baden, and other German states, have authorized professorships of homœopathy in the public universities; that the imperial government of Austria has instituted a professorship of homœopathy and sanctioned the establishment of homœopathic hospitals in Vienna, Hungary, and other parts of its dominions; that similar hospitals exist in St. Petersburg and Moscow, and that one hundred beds in the hospital Beaujon in Paris, have been for several years devoted to patients who are openly treated on the homœopathic system by Dr. Tessier and his hospital assistants.

"That when the Bavarian parliament and the Hungarian diet in 1843, unanimously agreed to recommend homœopathy to the favourable consideration of their respective governments, it was shown:—

"1st. That in Germany, the mortality in homœopathic hospitals was not quite 6 per cent., whereas in other hospitals it amounted to more than 12 per cent.

"2nd. That in severe inflammatory diseases, the mortality in homœopathic hospitals was not quite 5 per cent., and in other hospitals nearly 15 per cent.

"3rd. That in cholera the mortality which in other hospitals was 56 per cent., was in homœopathic hospitals under 33 per cent.

"4th. That the average number of days which the patients

remained in the hospital, was 28 to 29 in the ordinary hospitals, and from 20 to 24 in homœopathic hospitals: and

“ 5th. That in homœopathic hospitals the charge for each patient is not one-half that in other hospitals.

“ That the results obtained in homœopathic hospitals on the Continent have been fully corroborated by those obtained in the homœopathic hospitals and other charitable institutions in Great Britain.

“ That moreover one of the medical inspectors of the Board of Health has borne testimony to the successful results obtained in the London Homœopathic Hospital in the treatment of the cholera epidemic which broke out with such violence in the Golden Square District during the month of September last.

“ That those results have been embodied in a return made to the Medical Council of the Board of Health, and Dr. McLoughlin the medical inspector alluded to, who carefully watched the cases received into the wards of the London Homœopathic Hospital, has recorded in a letter addressed to one of the medical officers of that institution, his opinion of the superior results obtained in cases of the most malignant form of cholera there treated, over those of any other mode of treatment he had witnessed; and he has expressed his readiness when called upon, to corroborate the return in question.

“ That the undersigned and others who met together for the purpose of considering this matter, have appointed a deputation to present this memorial to your Lordship, with the view of obtaining your Lordship's authorization for the appropriation of some portion of the premises Her Majesty's Government propose to devote to the purposes of a civil hospital at Smyrna or elsewhere in the East, and for such assistance as your Lordship may see fit to grant, so as to enable a staff of properly qualified physicians and surgeons practising homœopathy to be selected and sent from this country, to receive and treat those officers, soldiers, and seamen who may desire to place themselves under the homœopathic system of treatment, during the period of their sickness.

“ That many of the undersigned have sons, brothers, relations or friends serving Her Majesty in the army and navy in the East, who have the fullest confidence in the efficacy of homœopathy in the treatment of diseases to which many of their comrades have fallen victims, and to which they themselves are hourly exposed, and who feel greatly the want of that mode of medical treatment in which they have faith.

“That should your Lordship require detailed statistics demonstrating the successful treatment of diseases by the homœopathic system, we are able to furnish them most abundantly from authentic documents already before the public, but we forbear to trespass further upon your Lordship's time in a memorial of this nature.

“We have the honour to be, my Lord,

“Your Lordship's obedient Servants.”

In a very short time this memorial received the signatures of 1 archbishop (the philosophic Whately of Dublin), 2 dukes, 1 marquis, 10 earls, 2 viscounts, 6 lords (peers), 17 peers' sons, 14 members of parliament, 18 baronets, 17 generals, 27 colonels and lieut.-colonels, 49 majors, captains, and subaltern officers of the army, 2 admirals, 7 captains of the royal navy, 8 commanders, &c., R.N., 65 clergymen, 45 justices of the peace, barristers and solicitors, and 314 bankers, merchants, and others. This list might have been almost infinitely increased, had more time been given for the collection of signatures, but it was thought advisable not to delay the presentation of the memorial.

Accordingly, a deputation, consisting of the Earl of Essex, Lord Lovaine, M.P., General Sir John Doveton, K.C.B., Admiral Gambier, Colonel Wyndham, Colonel Taylor, R.A., Captain Fishbourne, R.N., and Lord R. Grosvenor, M.P., waited by appointment on Lord Panmure, the Secretary of State for War, on the 29th of March. Lord Panmure listened very attentively to what the various members of the deputation had to say in support of the memorial, and promised to take the matter into consideration, and give his reply in writing. It is now a matter of history that immediately after the date of the presentation of the memorial, Lord Panmure had a fit of the gout, which, not having been treated homœopathically, laid him up for nearly five weeks. At the end of that time he was sufficiently recovered to give the following reply to the memorialists:—

“War Department, 4th May, 1855.

MY LORD,

I am extremely sorry that I have been prevented by illness from sending you a reply to the memorial which you did me the honour to place in my hands some time since. I have given my most careful attention to the allegations and arguments therein set forth, an

attention which is called for on my part not only by the importance of the subject of which it treats, but by the distinguished names by which the prayer of the memorial is supported.

I regret, however, that after the best consideration which I can give to the subject, I do not feel that I am justified in lending the authority of government to promote this particular mode of medical treatment in the army.

I am far from presuming to decide on a question of medicine, and not even from the gentlemen who composed the deputation which accompanied your Lordship to present the memorial, can I accept direction on so grave a subject.

The great principles of the science of medicine on which we rely, have been slowly built up by the labour, and are founded on the recorded experience of able and learned men; and until these principles are proved to be erroneous, and consequently abandoned, the government ought to continue to be directed by their professors and teachers.

With this opinion, I regret to say that it is not in my power to comply with the request contained in the memorial.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient servant,

PANMURE.

The Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P."

Such, then, (says the British Journal of Homœopathy,) was the termination of the great and influential movement set on foot for the purpose of securing to our army in the field the advantages of homœopathic treatment in those diseases which were, at the time the movement was commenced, decimating our brave troops under the superintendence of the practitioners of that science of medicine which Lord Panmure facetiously, as it appears to us, asserts is "founded on the recorded experience of able and learned men," &c.

The principles here laid down by Lord Panmure, are so perfectly modest, so entirely unassuming, that we think they must have emanated from some gentlemen of the Allopathic school of medicine. It certainly cannot belong to the English nobility to be so very cautious in the expressions of its opinions.

Not presume "to decide on a question of medicine?" No, no. But decide that thousands of officers and soldiers, who prefer

Homœopathy, shall have Allopathy forced down their necks, in all its offensively nauseating and prostrating doses, because it would be presuming to decide a question of medicine, for the learned Lord to give to Homœopathy one little spot, where she might exercise her healing functions, and administer to the suffering and the dying the balm of health and life.—Not decide a question of medicine? We wonder how Moses, the great law-giver of Israel, dared “to presume” to decide against the incanters and the sorcerers, the *regular medical Faculty* of his day, and to raise that serpent of brass to which the sick had only to look up and be healed. But Moses probably lived in a different day, when men had common sense, and exercised common reason, and were not tied to their swaddling clothes and led about by their mamma’s apron strings as Lord Panmure, and many of the English nobility are at the present day.

But seriously, a voice from the Almighty, as loud, as distinct, and as certain, and supported by as many clear and unmistakeable evidences of his will, as that which spake to Moses in the wilderness, is now speaking to Lord Panmure, and to the English nation, and commanding them to hold up the more brilliant light of Homœopathy for the healing of the people. But Lord Panmure answers, no, no—we are tied to the apron-strings of Allopathy. We have not yet got off our swaddling clothes. We cannot yet presume to think for ourselves. Our old mother Allopathy does all our thinking for us. Nothing is “*proved*” but what she tells us. We can look on nothing else—we can see nothing else. We know nothing else. *Allopathy now*,—Allopathy for ever. So says Lord Panmure.

LETTER FROM F. R. McMANUS, M. D.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—In the number of the Journal for October, 1854, appeared an article under the caption of “A Singular Disease;” in which were described several cases of catarrh. The affection is not an uncommon one, and has generally been called “Autumnal Catarrh.” I have seen many cases, and in every instance the attack commenced on the 19th or 20th of August. A gentleman of this city, who has not missed an attack for twenty-five or thirty years, is taken with it on the 19th, always commencing with sneezing; and every case which I have seen has had this distinguishing symptom. The first of the cases related in the Journal

was treated with Arsen., Ipecac., Pulsatilla, Nux Vomica, Belladonna and Aconite. I have never had any success with either of these remedies in that disease. I believe the specific remedy for it is Silicea, and I generally succeed in arresting it in a day or two, unless it should occur in an asthmatic patient, when it always terminates with an attack of that distressing complaint, and requires additional treatment. While the disease is nasal, the irritation being greatest in the Schneiderian membrane, with slight bronchial development, Silicea will cure it. I generally give a drop of the thirtieth attenuation in ten or twelve teaspoonfuls of water, a spoonful to be taken every two or four hours, if necessary. If the symptoms did not abate in forty-eight hours, I substituted the twelfth dilution, and if that did not relieve, the sixth. While the sneezing continues, I consider Silicea the remedy.

This disease is certainly "singular," from the fact of its attacking persons on the 19th or 20th of August. I have been puzzled to account for this, but have never thought of a better cause than the great difference of the midday and midnight temperatures at or about that time. The middle of the day is generally hot,—the middle of the night, cool and humid—sometimes cold, with heavy dews. I hope that any of your readers who may meet with this catarrh, will try Silicea, and report the result in your Journal together with any facts which may tend to illustrate its character, cause, developments, &c.

F. R. McMANUS.

Baltimore, August 12, 1855.

EDITORIAL.

HOMCEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The announcement for the Eighth Annual Course of Lectures in this Institution has been issued, and it will be perceived that the prosperity of the school has continued as usual. There has been some changes in the Faculty since the last session; Professor Walter Williamson, who has been identified with the prosperity of the College since its first commencement, has been obliged on account of ill health to relinquish the Chair of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, and J. P. DAKE, M. D., of Pittsburgh, a gentleman of acknowledged ability, has been elected in his place. It is, however, a gratification to announce, that Professor Williamson has consented to retain his connexion with the College as Emeritus Professor of Clinical

Medicine—so that his valuable counsel may still contribute to the prosperity of the school. W. A. Reed, M. D., has been elected to the Chair of Physiology and Medical Jurisprudence, and he will unquestionably discharge the duties assigned him in a faithful and acceptable manner. The other Chairs have the same incumbents as at the conclusion of the last session.

To insure the permanency of the Institution, the College Building in Filbert Street above Eleventh, has been purchased by the College Corporation, together with two dwellings adjoining, which will ultimately furnish ample means for sustaining a Clinical Department.

The Faculty have been perseveringly engaged in preparing for the ensuing session, which will commence on the 8th of October next; and no pains will be spared in trying to render the school in every respect, worthy of the patronage of the Homœopathic profession. The Museum is amply supplied with apparatus—and the opportunities for the pursuit of practical anatomy are equal to any in the country; and, moreover, it is believed that students intending to practice homœopathy, will have the advantage of as thorough instruction in all the departments of a medical education at this school, as in any other, without being compelled to listen to teaching entirely adverse to our scientific basis for practice. And in thus striving for the elevation of the Homœopathic School of Medicine, we trust the Faculty of the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, will be encouraged by the support and patronage of all interested in upholding the cause. The plea for sending students, intending to practice Homœopathy, to Allopathic Colleges, because the opportunities for pursuing the collateral sciences are greater, is without any just foundation. For in this institution, all the branches are as thoroughly taught as in any medical institution in the country; and the graduates that have gone forth from this school, it is believed, have been as well qualified for any emergency that may turn up in the course of practice, either in Surgery, Obstetrics, or the practice of medicine, as those from any other school.

YELLOW FEVER IN VIRGINIA.

From accounts constantly being received from Norfolk and Portsmouth, Va., concerning the ravages of the yellow fever in these cities, it appears that this malignant form of disease is advancing from year to year towards more northern latitudes. From what information we can gather, it would seem probable that the disease is endemic owing to some peculiarly predisposing influences in or about the locality where it is

raging; at any rate, it has been fearfully fatal, judging from the bills of mortality; whether this circumstance has been owing entirely to the malignity of the disease, or the faulty modes of treatment that have been brought to bear, it is impossible to say. Whether Homœopathic treatment has been introduced at all we are not informed; if not, we think there is abundant reason for turning the attention in this direction. It will be recollected that Dr. Barton of Charleston, Dr. Leon of New Orleans, and Dr. Holcombe, of Natchez, have severally served the cause of humanity in warring against this dreadful scourge, and with such signal success as to leave but little doubt as to the favorable result of Homœopathic treatment. If any of our readers are possessed of specific information as to whether any of the sufferers at Norfolk and Portsmouth have had Homœopathic treatment, and with what success, we will esteem it a favor, if they will communicate.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

THE NORTH AMERICAN HOMŒOPATHIC JOURNAL, a Quarterly Magazine of Medicine and the Auxiliary Sciences: Conducted by E. E. MARCY, M. D., New York; JOHN C. PETERS, M. D., New York; WM. H. HOLCOMBE, Natches, Miss.; HENRY C. PRESTON, M. D., Providence, R. I.

It will be seen that this Journal completed its first three volumes under the editorial charge of Constantine Herring, M. D., of Philadelphia; J. W. Metcalf, M. D., of New York; and E. E. Marcy, M. D., of New York, who is one of the present editorial corps. At the conclusion of the twelfth quarterly number, the publication of the Journal was suspended for a time. We are glad to see its republication commenced with the thirteenth number, under circumstances that warrant a reasonable hope for its continuance. The number before us presents a handsome appearance in its mechanical execution, contains 160 pages of the Journal, and the first moiety of 64 pages of "*The Elements of a New Materia Medica and Therapeutics, based upon an entirely new collection of drug-provings and clinical experience*, by E. E. MARCY, M. D.; J. C. PETERS, M. D., and OTTO FÜLLGRATH, M. D.

The present number is made up of original and translated matter, of an interesting character, and without doubt it will meet with a favorable reception from the members of the profession in general. The conductors of the Journal are gentlemen of acknowledged science, ability and liberality, and we sincerely hope they will find themselves amply supported in their enterprise. Messrs. RADEMACHER & SHEEK are the agents for the Journal, and they will gladly receive subscriptions and furnish subscribers at the publisher's price, \$3 00 per annum.

NOTICE.

As only a few copies of the SYMPTOMEN CODEX, by Charles Julius Hempel, M. D., 2 vols., are on hand, the former price of \$11 00 has been raised to \$14 00. The price of the Repertory remains unchanged, \$6 00. Those Physicians not already supplied with this valuable work will therefore do well to order a copy immediately.

WILLIAM RADDE, Publisher.

New York, Sept. 1, 1855.

TRACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

The Publishers beg to announce that they will commence this month the publication of a Series of

POPULAR TRACTS ON HOMŒOPATHY

for general distribution among all classes of the people. They respectfully urge this matter upon the attention of Physicians and the friends of the New School, as the best and most certain means of diffusing accurate information upon a subject in which every member of the community is deeply interested.

Tract No. 1, (containing 8 pages, on the Progress of Medical Science,) is now ready, and will be furnished, free of postage,

At \$2 00 per Hundred Copies.

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — SEPTEMBER, 1855. — No. VI.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

PHYSIOLOGY OR THE LAWS OF THE HUMAN ORGANIZATION.

BY C. E. TOOTHAKER, M. D.

OF NOURISHMENT AND GROWTH.

IN a former article on this subject, we have assumed that man is a unit, composed of parts; that the materials, substances, or existences, which go to make up his being, or to constitute his identity, are united together in such an extraordinary and wonderful manner, that whilst each is separate and distinct in itself, it also forms a perfect representation, image or portraiture of his whole being; and that this phenomena of a plurality in unity is not only manifest in the connections which subsist between the mind and the body—the spiritual and the material elements of our being—but is also manifest in the connections which subsist between the various material forms of which the body itself is essentially composed.

We have shown that these material forms—each distinct in itself, and each manifestly occupying the entire space of the whole organism—are so blended, as apparently to reverse or set at naught all the ordinary laws of matter, or all the principles which have been regarded as essentially belonging to material existence; and that each of these essential forms, which compose the body, is divided and subdivided into minute sheaths, skins, tubes, filaments and threads, until—although still, probably, in its perfectly organized state, and possessed of all its functions—it is reduced down, in the fineness of its tenuity, to the last point we are capable of comprehending of the infinite divisibility of matter.

In this infinitely attenuated state only, is organized matter capable of acting upon matter which is unorganized, or matter endowed with life upon that which is not thus endowed. It is only those ultimate extremities of organs, which no eye can see, no glass can reach—that form of organization which, in our conception, may be said to lie between something and nothing, or to occupy the place between the finite and the infinite, which can take up and appropriate to itself materials of life, and growth, and health, from the various inert substances with which it is surrounded.

The principle here advanced holds true in all the lower, as well as the higher forms of organization, or it is illustrated by all the analogies of nature. The power by which a plant, as it grows upon the river or the mountain side, either attracts to itself or is attracted to the sources from which it draws its support and nourishment, is no more an unseen power or influence than are the extremities of those physical organs with which it takes in the different forms of nourishment, from the earth and the atmosphere, adapted to its life and growth. Nor are these organs any more undiscoverable than are the last forms which the unorganized material had assumed before it entered into a new or an organized state.

The sap, wending its wondrous way to every part of the trunk, limbs, branches, twigs, leaves and fibres of not only the smallest tendrils, but of the largest oaks of the forest, conveys the different materials from which are elaborated the different forms of organization of which the plant is essentially composed. Of the minuter processes, by which this sap is created out of inert matter, how little do we know. The fine and delicate machinery by which it is arrested in its passage, its affinities broken up, its constituent elements separated, new forms and combinations created, until every variety of structure of which a plant is composed is brought into being, and made manifest to sense, is too fine and delicate for the microscope—though its magnifying power be multiplied by millions—to give us a conception. Infinite tenuity, infinite divisibility, so far as our conceptions of the infinite can extend, are written upon all the forms of vegetable life.

Even in the changes of form which take place in the material world, in what might be termed inert or unorganized matter, the same tendency towards infinite divisibility is manifested. The phenomena of crystallization takes place alone, when the matter of

which the crystal is composed is reduced to the last imaginable state of tenuity, its ultimate particles, except by their aggregation, being imperceptible to sense. In all the different chemical changes, which take place in the great laboratory of nature, or in the smaller and more easily accessible crucible of art, all we know, all we can perceive, of these changes, leads to the same great law of tenuity, or of extreme division and subdivision, until the material substance, in its last forms or ultimate particles, becomes so exceedingly attenuated as to defy all the inventions of human art to observe the processes by which these changes are effected, or by which these substances pass from one to another state of material existence.

All our observations, then, upon the phenomena of nature, all the analogies to be drawn from the material world, confirm this law of change, that in passing from one to another, and, consequently, in passing from a lower to a higher form of existence, all the materials, which are to be subjected to this change, become so sublimated and refined as to be imperceptible to sense.

In contemplating, then, the subject of the growth and nourishment of the body, our attention should not be exclusively directed to those crude and gross materials from which are drawn the supplies, by means of which the body is nourished and sustained. It is necessary, to any just appreciation of this subject, that in our investigations attention should also be directed to those higher forms which matter is capable of assuming—to those delicate approximations which the physical or material is capable of making towards the spiritual—the more gross and palpable towards the more refined and subtle, and which are, consequently, less perceptible to sense.

The materials of which the human body is composed are drawn from the material universe with which it is surrounded. Of the truth of this general position, we are not aware that any one has ever expressed a doubt. That the materials for the growth and nourishment of the body are derived from the same source as the body itself is derived, is also a proposition which needs not the support of argument. But, by what agencies has the body, with all its wonderful textures, all its organs, with all their fine and delicate machinery, all the fluids with which it is lubricated, and with which it is pervaded, not to speak of the finer and more subtle forces, qualities or entities, which, like electricity or magnetism, or like

what has been styled the odic force, pervade every part, and inspire and incite the whole—by what agencies has this complicated and wonderful structure been organized, refined, sublimated, inspired with life, and made as it were apparently, or at least in some degree, to approximate towards the spiritual, from the original crude and coarse materials of which the earth appears essentially composed? These are questions which properly belong to the *philosophy* of physiology—the *spiritualism* of *materialism*—the *causation* of organization—and a complete discussion of this subject would cover the whole ground of metaphysical science.

On this subject two essential theories exist. One supposes that organization is the result of the action of superior forces—that there is, above this material world and these organized forms which are perceptible to our senses, another and a higher form of existence, or, that the universe is pervaded with spiritual as well as with material entities—that the spiritual is capable, by the agency of certain forces, attractions, affinities, &c., the nature of which is but imperfectly understood by man whilst in this material state, to seize upon, appropriate to its use, or apply to its purposes, certain forms of matter, which it finds adapted to be acted upon by these agencies or affinities, and to be appropriated to the uses or purposes of such organization as the spirit—the superior or presiding genius, which controls the material—may direct. This theory supposes the spiritual to be at the head of the universe, and that, at least to our conceptions, matter is only made for its use, and is therefore subjected to its control.

The other theory supposes that matter is possessed of an *inherent* principle or power, or that it is one of the qualities of matter, that it is constantly seeking for change, and that, in these constant efforts, its tendencies are to assume higher forms, that by this impulse it is continually impelled upward, the lowest toward the higher, and this again toward a higher form of existence. That to this constant impulsion upwards, all the changes which take place in matter may be attributed, such as crystallization, and the formation of gaseous and ethereal products; that organization is the result of this impulsion, and life is the result of organization; that the tendency of living forms is constantly upward, until instinct, reason, intelligence, only subserve the wants of this material life; and that all we know of the subject leads to the conclusion, that

spirit is a higher form which matter may yet become capable of assuming—a substantial form, which, at some former period, has emanated from material elements—so that the material is the basis, the foundation, the “*sine qua non*,” the elementary principle, out of which the spiritual is formed, and without which it could never have had existence.

Some understanding of this subject is necessary to a just conception of the growth, nourishment and development of the body. For, if this growth and nourishment be the result of an impulsion from the material world—if it be the effort of the lower to assume higher forms of existence, of the unorganized to take on an organized state—then might we expect to find the laws which govern this growth and development manifested in the coarser and cruder forms in which matter itself subsists, or to grow out of the changes which it is capable of assuming; nor would it be necessary at any time, or for any reasons, to look for the manifestation of the laws of life and growth to any “*higher law*,” by which it might otherwise be supposed that the spiritual was capable of influencing and controlling the material elements of our being.

It is not my purpose, at this time, to argue the correctness of either of those views or theories. It is sufficient if I have stated them clearly, and truly marked the distinctive features of each. I shall, for the present, content myself with *assuming* that the first of these views is correct, and shall leave to the materialist, for the present at least, any *assumptions* he may see fit to make, until after having concluded what I wish to say upon the subject of growth and nourishment, I may return, at a subsequent period, to consider the various arguments the advocates of material agencies may urge in support of their peculiar theories.

We assume then, that to superintend the growth, nourishment and development of the body is one of the functions, duties, or offices of the spirit; that this superintendence involves the collection, selection and preparation of everything which may contribute to its life and health; that, however it may be with the lower order of animals, who may appear, in some degree at least, to be impelled by appetite, passion and propensity, with man reason is made the Supreme Director, the spiritual is placed above the material, and life is made to depend upon the triumphs which the spiritual can attain over the material elements of nature. For this purpose,

everything is constantly in a state of change, the very elements are continually acting or being acted upon by each other, even the primitive rocks are undergoing a process of disintegration—the frosts and snows of winter, the rains and heats of summer, the windy torrents, and the autumnal breezes, each accomplishes its purpose of change, by which the grosser materials become attenuated, the harder and coarser substances become softened and refined, and adapted to the purposes to which they are to be appropriated, for the support and nourishment of the body. This process of disintegration is constantly going forward, under the influence of some dynamic force, or spiritual agency, which appears to have been impelled by some far-seeing and superior intelligent power, which has adapted its action to its purposes, and admirably fitted each of these preliminary processes to the object which seems to have been constantly kept in view.

OUR LITERATURE.—A REVIEW.

BY JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M.D.

(Continued from page 264 of Vol. IV.)

WHATEVER may be the character or the real value of the work before us, we have no wish to detract from the motives which prompted its author in sending it into the world. These, we are bound to admit, must have been of the highest order,—a sincere desire to serve the common cause of humanity and of science. And, if we except the common but small weakness of men in general,—the desire to see oneself in print, the “*cacoëthes scribendi*,” or the scribbling itch,—which, alas, even psorinum fails to remove,—we cannot conceive that any thing short of a desire to place the means of an easy and pleasant cure for all human ailments within the reach of every individual and family could have tempted him to risk his professional reputation upon this manual.

But purity of intention, loftiness of motive, and even self-denying toil do not always imply soundness of judgment, scientific acquirements, extensive and solid information, or even elementary knowledge in any given case. And all must admit that authors, whose mission it should be to enlighten the people upon the subject on which they write, can hardly be excused if totally wanting in these departments. It is not, however, by any means a rare occurrence

for men of defective or narrow education, with some claims to natural, though ill-cultivated, talents, to mistake their resources, if not their powers, and to engage in undertakings for which they are altogether unqualified. And it is this which renders their intended good and well-meant efforts positive evils:—makes them unwittingly injure the cause they would more effectually have served by quiet and unassuming labors in the domain for which education, if not nature, had fitted them. Of such men we commonly say, that “their hearts are better than their heads,” that they meant well, but acted unwisely. And of them every good cause has reason,—if it may find a tongue,—to exclaim, “save me from my friends!” We sincerely regret to be compelled by the task we have assumed to allow no higher place to the author of the work under consideration,—Dr. Constantine Hering,—at the time he sent this book before the public, than that of one of the above class,—that of a man whose zeal outran his knowledge and judgment: and who has by this one act,—to mention no others of a later date at present—given our opponents a decided advantage by laying our system open to serious and most injurious charges, from which we suffer to this day. And these must remain as a stigma upon us as long as by our cowardly silence and guilty connivance we permit them to stand as items in our professional bill of fare. From this charge we must, individually, make an effort, though it be but feeble, to clear ourselves.—And now to our task. It will not be needful to make any strictures upon the language and style of this book, simply because there is not a line of tolerably correct English from its beginning to its end, and it has still less claim to style. It is deformed by every imperfection of speech and diction which is commonly heard in the mouths of the vulgar everywhere,—without connexion, order, propriety of expression or accident. In style we can only pronounce it an amalgam of the colloquial, the grave, the solemn, the didactic, the mystic and the slang,—thrown together in chaotic confusion, with an apparent obliviousness of there being any such things as laws and rules in language by which writers are governed on all subjects and in all tongues. Lest we may be accused of making assertions without proof, by such as have not read this extraordinary book for themselves, we will cite the following examples taken at random. The page on which they may be respectively found is indicated by the numbers set down.—

22. “*When any one has sweaty feet.*” The model for this

elegant form of expression may be found in one English classical author. One of the "two fine ladies from town," introduced to the family of the Vicar of Wakefield, says in the midst of the dance, "*by the living jingo I'm all of a muck of sweat.*" 35. "*When a person is so tired as to feel fainty!*" very feeble indeed. 58. "*A feeling of emptiness in the pit of the breast!*" This is a very queer pit for a medical philosopher to tumble into—why not say stomach? it would not be "half so bad;" but in avoiding this Scylla of the stomach, he falls into the Charybdis of "the breast." 59. "*Tedious consequences from immoderate smoking are difficult to cure!*"—we should think they would, indeed, and much more difficult to diagnose, since they form a new addition to the practice of physic, upon which we should like to see a thesis. 60. "*When suddenly dangerous symptoms appear,*"—an attempt at, when dangerous symptoms appear suddenly. 63. "*Rising of the blood into the head,*"—fine, very fine! 81. "*We are apt to inhale poison through the AIR!*"—indeed, we are "apt" to do no such thing, and for two very good reasons; first, because we are *very reluctantly compelled* sometimes to admit poisons through the mouth and nostrils; and second, because there never was any poison *in the air*, its component parts being oxygen, nitrogen and carbon.—But let the learned author explain his own meaning; he says, "*old wells, caves, cellars, vaults, and particularly old privies, contain frequently air that is deadly poisonous.*" In all deference we submit that this is not philosophy or fact, as, in the conditions attempted to be described, they contain *no air at all*, but deleterious gases, called by the uneducated "foul air," which is capable of destroying animal life. 84. "*Whatever has gone into putrefaction!*" can't easily go out, of course. 137. "*The bite of a mad dog, or of a raving animal.*" We know of no animal addicted to "raving" but the human animal, and he furnishes numerous well-marked instances of the disease; one of its characteristic symptoms is "to talk irrationally," and "when men *thus* rave we may conclude their brains are turned." 140. "*The endless variety of remedies increase with every year, deserve,*" &c.; how can an *endless* variety increase? A school-boy would write, "*increases,*" "*deserves.*" 140. "*With such any remedy will answer*"—a housemaid would say "*for such.*" 142. "*When pregnant women from a fall, misstep, or violent motion and concussion of whatever kind, receive pain!*" &c. There are upon record numerous strange and miraculous conceptions, and this one, produced at Allentown, Pa., in 1835,

is the latest, as far as we have been able to learn, and certainly the most wonderful. The pregnancy of Rhea Sylvia was decently and indulgently attributed to Mars—and

“Of Brian’s birth strange tales are told”—

as we are informed in the “Lady of the Lake,” canto 3d, but so remarkable a cause of gravidity as “a fall,” “misstep,” or “violent motion and concussion” is without its parallel in sacred or profane history. And even at the risk of being charged with want of due reverence for the mysteries of nature, we feel inclined to deny the main proposition implied in the learned Dr.’s words, whilst we freely admit that cases of pregnancy may occur on which each or all of these counts may be attendant circumstances, or incidents, though in strict medical jurisprudence they would not be allowed individually or collectively to stand “*in loco parentes*.” Still, we have classic authority for the above form of words.

“Her apron grew short, and her heart it did ache,
And she thought upon the *fall* coming home from the wake,
She thought upon the *fall* coming home!”

But, to be serious, if the above were written in English, it would run thus:—When pregnant women receive a hurt from a fall, &c.—and be no laughing matter. 144. “*Dislocation is when a joint has been put out of its proper place!*” This definition of dislocation is as great a curiosity in surgery as the last case is in obstetrics. Ordinary books and surgeons tell us that a joint is the union of two bones, and that dislocation occurs when the head of a bone is forced from its place. 146. “*The most important means of healing wounds is by combination.*” We should think that a “combination” of wounds would be an odd mode of healing them,—one in one place being deemed quite enough. The ordinary mode in cases of simple incised wounds we rather suppose to be by *coaptation*, or by bringing the edges together. So at least say Liston and Miller, but what of them? 150. “*Let him lay high with the wounded part, and see that no part of his body be pressed.*” This seems to us a very strange piece of medical advice, as it would not at all seem unreasonable that the act of incubation or hatching should succeed that of “*laying*.” It would, to say the least of it, be no *fowl play*.

158. “*Heterogeneous particles in the body*” is the heading of a chapter treating of the extraction of foreign bodies—a truly singular, though high-sounding, caption. It would, indeed, seem from this and many others, that, by a studied system, erroneous and unmean-

ing expressions and collocations had been sought out in order to supersede plain, correct and popular language.

170. "*When molestation remains after the danger is passed*"!! Here we confess ourselves at a dead stand; to this description of a diseased condition we have nothing to say, so we leave it *un-molested*.

173. "*Potashes, it is well known, are a substance very fretting and burning*!" it are, are it? the schoolmaster was certainly abroad at Allentown, Pa., in 1835.

"*If it have been occasioned by too great joy*,"—certainly whether "*it have*" or not, one thing is certain, that if we pursue this detail longer we shall either split our sides with laughter, or go mad with indignation. But may we not ask, in all seriousness, why this compilation of unmitigated trash has been allowed to remain for so many years to compromise and disgrace our cause? And how it has happened that, with so many able men in our ranks in this country, no one has had the courage to disclaim this thing and so disarm those opponents who are always ready to judge us "by our works?"

But verbal deformities and inaccuracy of diction are the lightest charges we have to make against this work. We would be willing, indeed, to pronounce an exemption in favor of an author who, through the medium of "broken English," conveyed great ideas, or even correct and useful information; we might, it is true, designate them "diamonds in mud," but who would quarrel with the mire that soiled his fingers, when it expiates the offence with a gem?

We must arraign this book before the supreme court of our Profession, and charge it with *capital crime*; as being guilty of violating our cause by false therapeutics, gross empiricism and vulgar superstition; by all which incalculable damage has been sustained by pure homœopathy! In a word, it stands at the bar indicted for *High Treason* against the Majesty of Science! The evidence we shall bring forward shall admit of no doubt, even cross-examination can be dispensed with. It shall be acquitted or found guilty upon the confessions and admissions of its *own pages*. These witnesses must needs be few, though fitly chosen, as the limits of our time and space restrict us from calling the array we have ready to attend. The plan of the work is highly objectionable and ill-judged. It savors of mysticism and quackery; you are always giving a *number*,—19 or 21, as the case may be—instead of a medicine; thus one is eternally groping in the dark, and the mind, in vain, looks out

for some ray of light as to what these ever-recurring figures signify—a state of mind that would at once be relieved by simply giving the names of the medicines, as Hahnemann and all other writers from him down have done; but some men are so fond of being in the clouds themselves that they will scarcely allow the light of the sun to break in upon others. To say the least of this feature, it was a great error in judgment, and implies want of sufficient caution and care in the author. On page 8 we find directions given for the administration of the remedies in these words: “*How to apply the medicine*”—“1st, by smelling; 2d, by taking one or two globules; 3d, dissolved in water.” Upon the *first* of these modes the greatest stress is laid, from which we are to infer that Dr. Hering deems it to be the most efficacious, as well as from the minute directions given as to the mode of closing one of the nostrils and then “smelling at the lower part of cork”—doing which once or twice is thought sufficient,—and in dealing with children it is thought best “to hold it to the nostril when asleep!” Now a careful perusal of Hahnemann’s works will show that he was by no means so confident on this point, and that his faith was wavering, weak and unsettled in the efficacy of “smelling.” Nor have the credible records of the qualified practitioners of our school in this country or abroad been more fortunate in confirming the advantages claimed for it by Dr. Hering. Indeed, it seems very clear to us that the reputable members of the profession have studiously “turned up their noses” at this dogma. One of the best informed, most accurate and reliable members of our school—Dr. Dudgeon, of London, says with regard to it: “I confess I have never had the courage to employ it in acute diseases, nor the impudence to use it in chronic ones. I cannot conceive a case in which it would ever present advantages over the other methods of administering the remedy”—Lecture 18, page 511. So that, on the whole, we feel justified in pronouncing it one of those wild vagaries, which men, like Dr. Hering, who are more singular than sound, adopt for the sake of doing something out of the common way, and for which vagaries we should not, as a body, be judged. So much for the general characteristics of the work, for we must now turn to its particular marks of deformity.

On page 43 we are gravely told, “*when the stomach suffers from eating short fish or spoiled meat, give some finely pulverized charcoal mixed with brandy.*” “Brandy and water” is so well known and so fully established, that we need not add a word. Some time ago

"brandy and salt" was the universal remedy for all ailments. We believe it answered very well *for liquor merchants* as long as the rage lasted; but it remained for Dr. Hering to sound the praise of "brandy and charcoal," and to him belongs the doubtful honor of blacking the face of homœopathy with a filthy compound that hardly deserves the credit of being a cross between an allopathic dose and the bolus of an itinerant herb doctor. In holding forth upon drunkenness at pages 51 and 52, we see the amiable blending of the clerical office with that of the medical philosopher; and a little homily is given in the usual style of prayer-meeting doctors upon the religious aspect of the "*disease*;" after which, on page 53, the drunkard is desired to "put a drop of sulphuric acid in a tumbler with water, stir it well, and drink it in the morning, and to repeat it every two or three days till it occasions uneasiness, against this smell camphor." And in case sulphuric acid, cant, and camphor should fail, the doctor goes on and says,—“we would advise his unfortunate wife, his children, or brothers or friends to administer to him the following remedy in a secret manner.”—

“Put a live eel into a bucket or narrow tub; pour wine over it, and let it die. Draw this wine in bottles, and give it to the drunkard, and let him drink as much as he will. You may proceed in the same manner with brandy; which, however, ought to stand for a short time before being put into decanters.” There is in this piece of sage wisdom another “tale of a tub,” and a wonderful “*fish story*”—but in thinking of swallowing this disgusting compound,—though we get new ideas of “wine negus” and “brandy toddy,”—we confess ourselves compelled to hold our nostrils strongly compressed between our fore-finger and thumb and cry “stinking fish!” And with strange inconsistency, and more strange want of faith in so *purely* scientific a draught as a rotten eel in a bucket of wine or brandy, it is said once more on the 54th page, “should this prove abortive, try sulphuric acid!” and then the drunkard’s friend must mix it, diluted with water, in the food and drink of the patient, morning, noon and night,—his coffee, tea, soup, &c., &c., must be in part, at least, made of sulphuric acid, till it affects his stomach, when he must have tea of bitter herbs, oranges or roots, and still his sulphurated “meat and drink” in tact—“until the mouth gets sore, then cease;”—and then, “in case weakness of stomach, diarrhœa, vomiting, or giddiness be the consequence, give No. 8; if the mouth becomes ulcerated, give No. 7.” These would certainly be very

likely results from the large quantities of sulphuric acid the poor drunkard is to have smuggled into his stomach with every morsel of food and every drop of drink he swallows, according to the advice and directions of the author of "The Homœopathist," of Allentown, Pa., in 1835! An advice which the veriest tyro in science and homœopathy would laugh to scorn, and which the most superstitious and gullable old woman would think beneath her notice.

Among the curative methods for *mania a potu*, on page 56, "*blood-letting, from five to six ounces*, is frequently of service, at first daily, then every other day, and let the patient drink plenty of cold water," &c., &c. It is a relief to us once more to find something we can refer to learned authority. If any reader of this article has not read GIL BLAS, we pity him, and beg that he will oblige us by reading, as he can, the second and third chapters of Book the Second; he will find there honorable mention made of Doctor Sangrado, "who had acquired a great reputation with the public by a pomp of words, a solemn air, and some lucky cures, which had done him more honor than he deserved."—Of the greatness of the man he may judge from these words addressed by him to his pupil: "Thou art learned, Gil Blas," said he, "before thou turnest physician; whereas others prescribe a long time, generally all their lives, without ever becoming learned." His mode of treating each and all of his patients was short, easy and simple. "*He must be bled every day, and drink hot water in abundance.*" The reader can here see the striking analogy between the formula of "The Homœopathist" and that of Sangrado,—the difference being simply that the former recommends *hot*, whereas Dr. Hering prefers *cold*, water *after the bleeding*. Of the many other points of resemblance between the two cases, the reader must judge for himself.

On page 166, we find, "*Whoever is troubled with dyspepsia, should eat much butter, and have daily an injection administered of warm water or milk*"—a notable mode, truly, for curing or preventing dyspepsia! Most medical men of both schools agree that butter and fatty substances in general are the greatest promoters of this disease; but we live in an age of discoveries, and who, in the grand march, would not say with Horace—

"Occupet extremum scabies; mehi turpe relinqui est."—

(May the *itch* seize the hindmost; I am ashamed to be left last.)

On the 7th page of Part the 2d, as a cure for rheumatic head-

ache,—“*the steam of hot mush drawn into the nose, and the hair combed every evening,*” is the truly homœopathic and scientific prescription!

The mode, or one of the modes, of dealing “with shortness of breath” is, by “anise-seed tea at night, and smoking tobacco every morning!!”—page 89.

On page 92, Part 2d, in pleurisy the patient is directed that he will “do well to have a vein opened, and when it is once done, make a large incision and allow a good quantity of blood to escape.” Now, with the utmost consideration for this author’s word, we distinctly assert that we think *he would do much better to do no such thing!* And we should like to know what other respectable homœopathic authority Dr. Hering can refer us to for recommending this practice in a case where the patient is presumed to have the remedies usually given in the disease, at his elbow?—It has not often fallen to the lot of men who have studied medicine from good books and at colleges only, to meet with such a remedy as that to be found on the 102d page, part 2d, of this truly extraordinary work; it runs in these words: “*we may in many cases, relieve by tying, over night, around the throat, the woollen stocking of a healthy person, and who is not of the same sex as the patient.*” Now, this prescription, as before intimated, being entirely out of our sphere of knowledge and experience, we will not presume to pronounce on its efficacy in the face of so high a sanction. But with respectful humility we submit that its administration is *surrounded* with a net-work of difficulties. We will suppose, for instance, that the patient is a young gentleman, still unmarried; he must in that case, lay his mother or sisters under contribution for the “loan of a stocking!” and should he not be blessed with these tender relatives, he must present his petition at the feet of “that idol whom every young man has enshrined in his heart:”—and if the season should happen to be that in which ladies prefer silk or cotton, or that it should be the evening of the day on which either of the ladies in question had taken a long walk, we are sure they might justly feel some hesitancy in lending *the doctor’s prescription*. We will neither present the other side,—that is, the female aspect of this question—nor pursue it further, but leave it to the gentle reader to follow out the train of thought for himself: and we feel fully assured that he will agree with us that this remedy is one of *some delicacy* and great difficulty, on whatever *footing* he may place it.

The next advance upon the foregoing "specific" is *no nearer than the moon!* Treating of tape-worm—page 165, those who may suspect this parasite to hold his revels in their intestines, must look out for him "*about the new and full moon,*" at which time he may be expected to come forth to pay his respects to "the glimpses of the moon!" but the remedy which is to compel the monster to reveal himself to the full light of day, must be administered "*at the waning of the moon, and the next full moon!*" Truly, "there are more things in heaven and earth than have been dreamed of in our philosophy!"

Who does not like, when the hour for rest has arrived, and nature has drawn her night-cap over her wrinkled forehead, to enjoy the refreshing luxury of the "sweet restorer, balmy sleep?" Who does not, as he lays down his weary limbs, address the brother of Death—

"Somne, quies rerum, placidissime Somne Deorum,
Pax animi, quem cura fugit, qui corpora duris
Fessa ministeriis mulces reparasque labori."—OVID.

But the God, however smooth and soft the accents of prayer and fervent its spirit, will not always shed his oblivious influences upon mortal eyes, but frequently desert his post as if he had gone to spend the night with Cupid and the other troublesome deities, whose special office it is to disturb the children of men both night and day. For such sleepless eyes and restless heads "The Homœopathist" has a ready cure. Page 252—Sleeplessness may be relieved or cured "by rubbing the forehead with the palm of the hand, particularly if it be done accurately 101 times and counted; if you count wrong, still go on; if it do not help, begin anew from the beginning, without losing patience. It also contributes much to sleep to fancy you had to write with a very long pole, on a high, exceeding high wall, the year and date in very large letters, first in figures, then with letters!" There is only one thing that could at all improve this piece of medical wisdom, which is, that the long imaginary pole were a *real* pole, and that the sleepless man would really use it upon the "very high, exceedingly high wall;" in that case we assure him he would, after the necessary muscular effort, sooner sleep, and *be less a dreamer*. Perhaps it would make this result doubly sure if he were to go out and collect "101" "decent-looking" paving-stones and bring them in a bag into his bed-room.

In no less than three different places,—pages 223, and 274-5, is MESMERISM called into requisition, with full directions how to make

the passes in straight lines and high curves! so that it is not thought sufficient that homœopathy should be an improvement and an advance upon the old system, but this contemptible humbug, execrated and despised by all sound thinkers and well educated men, must be foisted in to patch up what Dr. Hering thinks the failures of the former. We trust it will be henceforth distinctly understood that these abominations are anything but Homœopathy.

One more novelty from this mass of confusion and folly, and we have done with it.

Page 245. "*Lying oneself sore.* This may be avoided when a vessel of water is placed under the patient's bed, and renewed every day. If water alone does not serve, then dissolve some globules of No. 15 in it." And in case this never-to-be-forgotten remedy should fail to cure "lying oneself sore,"—bed-sores, we should think—there is another more *far-fetched* remedy still. "*A soft buck-skin may be laid under the patient, the hair turned down and the tail end toward the feet of the patient!* by these means it may be avoided or cured!" Now, then, surely "thereby hangs a tail!" Upon the surface of "the water under the patient's bed" we shall not raise a ripple, nor shall we disturb the globules that sleep in its silent depths and send up their healing powers through "bed and bedding," by virtue of some profound mystery of nature revealed only to Dr. C. Hering, doubtless by divine ordination! But on taking our leave, permit us to *take also* one turn out of the "buck-skin," and while thus pleasantly shaking it up, let us part with friendly smiles and merry faces, with the satisfaction, that, if in this book we have found no philosophy, we *have found plenty of "fun."*

"Semel Bryanus O'Linn bracca indigebat,
Frater dedit rubræ bovis pellem quam habebat,
Hocque corpus cruraque noster induebat,
'Frigido jucundum est,' Bryanus dicebat."

"Brian O'Linn had no breeches to wear,
So they bought him a *buck-skin* to make him a pair;
The woolly side out and the fleshy side in,
'It is pleasant and cool,' says Brian O'Linn!"

Reader, the case for the Crown and Majesty of Homœopathy and Science is before you; would that the counsellor had been more capable and the pleading of a higher order, for your sake,—but a noble and a just cause can well dispense with the outward display and the extraneous circumstances of pompous show,—it is yours to pronounce the verdict; it shall be, it *must* be, "guilty upon all the counts!"

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

(Continued from page 288.)

It has not been satisfactorily determined by observation whether the constitution, temperament or complexion exert any influence whatever, either as a predisposing cause, or a protection against the disease.

The disease may be transmitted from the parent to the child.

Among the *exciting causes* we may enumerate powerful mental emotions, as fright, or rage, gastric difficulties, and intestinal disease.

As the disease rarely proves fatal, it is difficult to point out the specific pathological changes that may result from it, or that may occasion the peculiar symptoms;—consequently it is impossible to locate the seat of the disease or the nature of the affection; different writers have variously located the difficulty in some portions of the nervous centres; some maintain that both the brain and spinal marrow are implicated; others that the disease arises from a morbid condition of the base of the brain, and yet others that it arises from the medulla oblongata; but the majority of observers are not satisfied of their being any morbid appearances in any of the nervous centres, calculated to throw much light upon the pathology of the disease.

A general derangement of the functions of the nervous system is about all that any pathologist has been able to discern.

TREATMENT.—It is evident from the foregoing description of the disease, that nothing is presented as a guide for treatment but the symptoms. It is to these, then, as in all other cases, that the attention must be directed, in determining upon the remedies to be employed.

The remedies usually employed in the treatment of Chorea, are: *Arsenicum*, *Belladonna*, *Causticum*, *China*, *Cicuta*, *Cocculus*, *Coffea*, *Crocus*, *Cuprum*, *Dulcamara*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Ignatia*, *Iodium*, *Nux vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, *Rhus*, *Sepia*, *Stramonium*, *Sulphur*, *Zincum*.

Arsenicum may prove useful when the disease afflicts persons of

extreme debility, that are subject to coldness, and disposition to lie down; starting of single parts when falling to sleep, and when the patient is very much emaciated, and has uncontrollable twitching of certain muscles, and excessive prostration.

Belladonna.—Suited to plethoric subjects, addicted to pain in the head, or rushes of blood to the head; when there is convulsive motion or twitching of the limbs, or muscles of the face; or when the patient is subject to stammering; and when any of the limbs or muscles are subject to uncontrollable movements. *Belladonna* cured chorea of a year's standing in a girl twelve years of age, of plethoric habit, and sanguine temperament, who had no control over the movements of her arms and lower extremities, and who had previously been subject to severe pain in the head, and occasional twitchings of the muscles of the face. The same remedy has also been found useful when the disease has been brought on by fright or terror.

Causticum.—In subjects very much emaciated, this remedy has been found serviceable in the cure of *stammering*. *China*, in feeble constitutions. *Cicuta*, *Cocculus*, *Coffea* and *Crocus* are remedies that may be employed in highly excitable temperaments, and *Cuprum* is well suited to the condition of the organism that favors chorea in nearly all cases. A gentleman of extensive experience remarked to the writer, that he had met with several cases of the disease that *Cuprum* appeared to cure, after other remedies had failed. Indeed, he remarked that he had found *Cuprum* 30th so effectual, that he had been nearly convinced that it was the specific remedy for the disease in all cases.

Dulcamara.—In cases brought on by a cold, and also in cases that appear to have resulted from suppressed eruptions.

Hyoscyamus.—When there is great contortions of the face, eyes, and limbs, head thrown back, or drawn to the left side, oppressed respiration, wild and staring expression, convulsive laughter, or weeping, and twitchings of the muscles, delirium, small pulse and sunken features.

Ignatia.—When the subject is sensitive and prone to weep. *Iodium*, in persons of a scrofulous diathesis, affected with chorea.

Nux vomica and *Pulsatilla* may be employed, if symptoms of chorea have arisen from constipation, or accumulations of fecal matter in the intestines,—most suitable for sanguine and lymphatic

temperaments. *Rhus*, if the symptoms set in after erysipelas, when the patient is yet weak and feeble. *Sepia*, in hysterical subjects; *Silicea* and *Sulphur*, as well as *Lycopodium* and *Calcarea carb.* when the symptoms have followed the drying up of cutaneous eruptions. *Stramonium*, when the features are sunken, and the patient has small, quick pulse, and is subject to anxiety and delirium. *Zincum*, when there is painful soreness of the muscles, and visible twitching of the muscular fibres, worse towards evening.

DIET AND REGIMEN.—The fresh air of the country is always to be commended to patients suffering from chorea. The diet should be simple and nutritious, free from irritating condiments. All stimulating drinks should be forbidden, and the patient should be as far removed as possible from exciting scenes, and children especially should be surrounded by such a combination of circumstances as will both amuse them and promote their enjoyment in a quiet manner.

NERVOUS APOPLEXY.

This form of apoplexy, ranged under the neuroses, presents but little difference in the symptoms from those of serous apoplexy. It is generally preceded by nervous symptoms, tremors, convulsive movements, depraved condition of the senses of sight and hearing, more or less confusion, stupor, vertigo or delirium. The attack usually comes on suddenly after some powerful mental emotion.

The *symptoms* are ordinarily such as attend hæmorrhage into the encephalon; total or partial loss of sensibility and motion, with stertorous breathing, slight convulsive movements and general paralysis. The paralysis that takes place from hæmorrhage in the nervous centres, it will be remembered, is mostly confined to one side; but in nervous apoplexy both sides are affected alike, or nearly so. If it should appear on one side in a greater degree for a time, it may increase alternately to the same or a greater degree on the other; and at the same time the symptoms would be more numerous than usually attend cerebral hæmorrhage.

When symptoms of apoplexy have occurred several times, and have been of short duration, and have passed away without leaving behind them any evidence of compression, it may be inferred that the difficulty is nervous apoplexy.

The duration of the disease is generally short. It frequently

appears and disappears in nearly the same moment. The disease usually terminates suddenly, being accompanied in some cases by copious discharge of watery urine, belching of wind, and also discharge of flatus from the abdomen, through the rectum.

Some cases of recovery after a season of complete paralysis have been recorded.

CAUSES.—The causes of nervous apoplexy are believed to be sudden and powerful mental emotions; and the disease usually occurs in hysterical and hypochondriacal persons. It is said to be more frequent in adult males than females, and also in those excluded from the open air, as being more impressible subjects.

TREATMENT.—Since it is apparent that powerful mental emotions are sufficient to produce the disease, it is manifestly requisite, when it does occur, to adopt every reasonable measure for removing the cause. If any subject has been known to irritate and perplex the mind, that has worn upon the system, depressed the powers of the encephalon, it is quite evident that the powers of the heart and blood-vessels may be impaired at the same time. A condition favoring the occurrence of the disease may also result from the use of tobacco, or other pernicious habits; it is requisite that these should be overcome or suspended, if possible, because it would hardly seem probable that a tendency to a disease of the kind could be overcome, so long as these very exciting causes remain.

The homœopathic treatment of nervous apoplexy will require nearly the same group of remedies as other forms of the disease. If produced by protracted grief, *Ignatia* may have a good effect; *Belladonna*, if in sanguine temperaments, subject to headache; *Nuxvomica* is also a remedy that may prove particularly serviceable when over exertion of the mind has been the exciting cause, and particularly if there is general paralysis without any apparent convulsive movements. *Sulphur* may also be consulted when the function of the brain has become so impaired as to produce derangement in the action of the heart and arteries. *Pulsatilla*, *Sepia*, *Zincum*, *Platina* and *Calcarea* are also remedies that may be consulted in the treatment of this disease.

DIET AND REGIMEN.—It seems very reasonable to suppose that persons subject to anything like nervous apoplexy, should be restricted to the simplest kind of diet, that is, such as will tax the digestive organs but little. Fresh air is also commendable, and

also the enlisting of the attention by the introduction of pleasant subjects for conversation, and in short a resort to any judicious measures for diverting the mind from any subject that apparently impairs the function of the brain.

CATALEPSY.

This disease of the nervous system, classed among the neuroses, consists of such a condition of the nervous centres as results in a tonic contraction of some of the muscles, so that the limbs retain the position they had prior to the attack, or in which they may have been placed during the attack.

Along with the attack, the mind and all the senses are for the time completely dormant.

SYMPTOMS.—There is considerable complication of the symptoms of catalepsy. Sometimes there are prodromic indications of an approaching attack, such as palpitation of the heart, yawning and stretching, cramps and cephalalgia, but, at other times, the patient is suddenly attacked with general or partial rigidity of the muscles, and a total loss of consciousness. The limbs are not thrown about as in ordinary convulsions, but they usually remain as placed before the attack comes on,—the eyes are fixed, and usually directed upwards and forwards. The respiration may remain free, unless the disease attacks the muscles concerned in respiration, then this function may be so interfered with as to render it almost imperceptible. The same may be remarked of circulation. The pulse may continue of nearly the normal character, or it may become so feeble as to be difficult of detection. The limbs for the most part continue flexible, but stiff when an attempt is made to move them. This is not always the case, for in rare cases they become perfectly rigid, and will retain any position in which they may be placed.

The face is somewhat flushed, and the skin usually warm. In very rare cases, the mind remains unimpaired, but in the greater proportion of cases the paroxysm causes an entire suspension of sensation and intellectual action, so that nothing whatever that occurred during the paroxysm is recollected. Neither has the skin any sensibility; it may be pinched or pricked without the patient experiencing any pain; light will not contract the pupil of the eye, and the hearing is entirely suspended.

The attacks vary in duration; sometimes they are transient, and

pass off very soon; at other times they continue for hours, and even days, presenting one of the forms of *trance*, it is supposed, which has been described by authors.

CAUSES.—It has been observed that persons subject to catalepsy, possess a highly impressible nervous system, and on this account the affection has been the most frequently noticed in hysterical subjects, and most authors regard this affection only as a variety of hysteria. This being the case, we may look to mental agency as constituting the most apparent exciting cause of the difficulty.

TREATMENT.—This disease being so nearly allied to other neuroses, and especially to hysteria, of which this is regarded as a variety, that we may defer the consideration of the specific treatment till we have considered this disease.

HYSTERIA.

This description of neuroses is so named from its supposed origin, in connection with the uterus. But this idea is not generally received at the present day, although it is probable that some morbid condition of this organ may often prove an exciting cause. Many cases occur in males, as well as in females, and this circumstance alone would negative the idea of there being necessarily any such connection.

SYMPTOMS.—These are so various that it would be utterly impossible to enumerate them, or even describe them, except in a general way. There is scarcely any disease which hysteria cannot simulate, yet there are symptoms that may be regarded peculiar to the affection. As in the other neuroses we expect to find hysterical subjects highly endowed with nervous symptoms, unusually impressible, easily excited to laughter and crying in alternation, without any assignable cause, and to great variations, as their spirits, sometimes severely depressed, and at other times unusually elevated, accompanied by a greater or less degree of hypochondria. These symptoms, with the sensation of a ball ascending in the throat, inducing a feeling of suffocation, sometimes fill the patient with fearful forebodings. This sensation of the ball is what is termed the *globus hystericus*. Attending this difficulty is also severe palpitation and occasionally dyspnœa, headache, constipation, and a copious secretion of limpid urine. These may be regarded as symptoms that

characterize hysteria in a mild form, and when they occur suddenly but little doubt is left of the attack being that of hysteria.

In other cases these symptoms may precede spasms, which are of an exceedingly violent character. Ladies attacked with this form of the disease, even if of feeble frame and delicate muscles, will sometimes be so severely affected as to require the exercise of great strength to keep them in bed, the trunk of the body being twisted in all directions, the limbs being moved so forcibly as to defy all efforts to control them—the hands become so forcibly clenched as to resist all attempts to straighten the fingers. It will be seen that this form of the disease differs in nothing from what we described under the head of catalepsy, which we stated was but a variety of this affection.

As patients recover from the severe forms of hysteria, the fits of laughing and crying often recur, with distressing hiccough. The intelligence often remains undisturbed, and this shows the wide distinction between hysteria and epilepsy,—but when the disease takes the form of catalepsy, both the intellectual and moral faculties are grossly perverted, at times, so that obscene manœuvres are often persisted in by the patient, utterly at variance with the usual character and habits.

The severe form of the disease may continue for a longer or shorter period,—recovery usually takes place in a few hours, and the patient is restored to her former condition, feeling fatigued on account of the extra exertion to which she has been subjected, and perhaps some degree of lethargy, which gradually disappears. Dr. Samuel George Morton, who bestowed considerable attention to this disease, described as a particular diagnostic sign of hysteria, a peculiar gnawing pain situated immediately below the left breast, in a hollow formed between the cartilages of the fifth, sixth and seventh ribs, and generally so circumscribed that it may be covered by a penny; the seat of this pain is believed to be in the intercostal nerve.

To a young practitioner an attack of this disease, if severe, appears most formidable, yet the prognosis is always favorable. An uncomplicated case of hysteria seldom if ever proves fatal. When such is the case, the disease has evidently been the exciting cause of some other mischief, implicating some of the vital organs. This undoubtedly has been the case in some cases. The writer once had

under his charge an irritable and troublesome patient accustomed to forebode evil about almost all the affairs of life, who was subject to attacks of hysteria every little while, of the most formidable character; after many severe attacks her frame began to sink, and she finally appeared to sink away and die from a worn out and exhausted condition of the nervous system. Hysteria may merge into epilepsy; under such circumstances the knowledge of the former hysterical condition may render this latter difficulty somewhat obscure, and not easy to diagnosticate.

The occurrence of the paroxysms of hysteria are somewhat irregular, as they may be developed at any time, when an exciting cause is present.

The tendency to the disease may disappear under the changes that take place in the system during the progress of life. The disease usually occurs previous to the middle age, and it has been observed that persons rarely suffer from it, after thirty or forty years of age. When protracted, the system may become so impressible, as to allow the slightest circumstance to develop a paroxysm, or induce a fainting fit, or severe palpitation of the heart.

CAUSES.—The description which we have already given of this malady would argue that it is an unusual impressibility of the nervous system which constitutes a predisposition to it. Sometimes this predisposition is congenital and natural, at other times it is acquired. It may exist in both sexes, but for obvious reasons it is more frequently met with in females. Any morbid condition of any of the organs that will superinduce this impressibility, may be reckoned among the exciting causes. At the commencement of menstruation, as well as at the regular periods after, the nervous system of the female may become very impressible. At such times a more trivial exciting cause may give rise to hysteria, than at other times when the system is stronger and less impressible. Sudden and powerful mental emotions are the most common exciting causes, when these occur at periods when the whole system is rendered highly impressible from the causes above named.

Hysteria being properly a disease of the nervous system that presents peculiar phenomena without betraying any organic derangement or lesions, of course leaves us without a knowledge of the precise pathological condition of the nervous centres. Nothing has been elicited from autopsy to throw any further light upon the

nature of the disease, than can be inferred from the symptoms. It has been inferred, however, by prominent writers upon the subject, that many of the protean forms of hysteria are referable to irritation of the *medulla spinalis*, especially its dorsal portion.

TREATMENT.—The treatment of hysteria may be divided into that which should be called into requisition during a paroxysm, and that which is requisite during the intervals, for the purpose of obviating the predisposition to them.

The remedies that may be employed are *Agnus castus*, *Asarum Europæum*, *Aurum*, *Belladonna*, *Bryonia*, *Calcarea*, *Causticum*, *Cicuta*, *Cocculus*, *Conium*, *Ignatia*, *Lachesis*, *Moschus*, *Nux moschata*, *Nux vomica*, *Platina*, *Pulsatilla*, *Sepia*, *Stramonium*, *Sulphur*, and some others.

Agnus castus and *Asarum Europæum* are remedies that in some cases may prove very useful. When there is excessive sensitiveness and sadness, with apprehension of impending death, *Agnus castus* would seem to be indicated; and in persons of nervous excitement and mirthfulness, subject to stupifying drawing or pressure in the head, mostly in the temples, *Asarum* is preferable.

Aurum is well suited to females sensitive to pain and given to melancholy and desire for death, and when the paroxysms are preceded by anguish and inclination to suicide, and also when the patient is prone to despair or is quarrelsome, and complains of headache, as if bruised by blows, when exciting the mind until it becomes confused.

Belladonna is suitable when the paroxysm is preceded by severe pain in the head, as if there is hyperæmia of the blood-vessels of the cerebrum, and when the face appears flushed, the eyes red and swollen, and when the senses are unusually excitable, and when there is sadness and hypochondriac lowness of spirits, anguish, restlessness, or raging mania. This remedy is well suited to cases of catalepsy, in persons of sanguine temperament. *Bryonia*, in those of a bilious temperament, afflicted with hysteric spasms, given to crying, fulness and heaviness of the head, with digging pressure in the direction of the forehead.

Calcarea, when there is dizziness or dulness of the head, vertigo and headache, or hemicrania, with eructations and inclination to vomit, constriction of the throat, sensation of swelling at the pit of the stomach. *Causticum*, when the paroxysm is preceded by melan

choly and weeping, with apprehension, anxiety, vertigo, oppressive headache, stitching pains in the temples, jerks and shocks in the head, good deal of mucus in the mouth. These two remedies are suitable for persons of a scrofulous diathesis, or subject to eruptions.

Cicuta, when there is trembling of the limbs, and general convulsions, or catalepsy, and spasmodic pains of various kinds, and mania, laughing, and foolish gesticulations, staring of the eyes, pale face, and froth at the mouth, jerking and twitching of the upper and lower extremities.

Cocculus, when the attack is preceded by vertigo, as if intoxicated, and the patient is given to sadness. *Conium* is useful in hysterical complaints, especially in unmarried persons subject to fainting fits, or irritation of the spinal marrow, and particularly when there is general languor, with desire to laugh, out of spirits, indifferent, lazy and irritable. This remedy is also suitable when the hysteria seems to be connected with derangement of the uterine functions and constipation of the bowels.

Ignatia, for females of extreme sensitiveness, and disposed to weep; paroxysms come on with irresistible inclination to weep, and go off with sobbing, and when the hysteric spasm comes on after eating, with hiccough, and when there is empty and weak feeling at the pit of the stomach, abdominal spasms, sensation of a ball in the throat, alternately with a sad and weeping mood; headache, with inclination to vomit, or as if a nail were driven into the brain; spasms after fright and mortification, and for general hysteric debility and fainting fits.

Lachesis, when the attacks come on with shrieks, and are preceded by a strange feeling in the throat, deep-seated headache, with nausea, fearful foreboding, fear of death, excessive moaning, mental alienation after chagrin, vertigo, with headache, especially before the menses, shortness of breath, gnawing hunger, sensation of suffocation in the wind-pipe, icy cold feet and hands.

Moschus, when there is fainting and debility, especially at night, and particularly in hysteric females at the menstrual period, and when the menses appear too early and too profuse, and also when there is constriction in the wind-pipe, suffocating, spasmodic constriction of the chest, burning in the hands, and uneasiness in the lower extremities.

Nux moschata, when there is disposition to laugh at every thing,

headache above the eyes, worse during motion; difficult menstruation, oppression of the chest, fainting fits and hysteric spasms, with excessive languor, especially in the knees and small of the back, with drowsiness, mania or headache, with sense of looseness of the brain when shaking the head; pains in the back and small of the back, as if bruised and lamed by blows.

Nux vomica, when the hysteria appears to be connected with disordered digestion, fainting turns after dinner, paralytic weakness of the limbs, it is suitable for sanguine and choleric temperaments, subject to gastric derangements and bilious complaints, excessively sensitive to external impressions, irascible and irritable.

Platina, when the paroxysms of hysteria are unattended with loss of consciousness, excessive debility, spasmodic yawning, headache gradually increasing and decreasing, numb feeling in the head, burnt feeling of the tongue, constrictive feeling of the chest, and when the hysteria seems connected with uterine derangement.

Pulsatilla is evidently one of the best remedies that can be resorted to in hysteria in young females at the age of puberty, when it may result from the exceedingly impressible condition of the system, which this critical age is apt to engender. *Sepia* is a remedy that is equally useful for the complaint in females subject to paroxysms of sick headache, afflicted with prolapsus uteri, and prostrating leucorrhœa.

Stramonium, for cataleptic stiffness of the whole body and other kinds of spasms, attendant upon suppressed eruptions or secretions, and when there is coldness of the whole body, and when the spasms are not attended with loss of consciousness. *Sulphur* may be called into requisition in psoric constitutions, in changing the condition of the system that favors the development of the disease.

As remarked in the description of the disease, hysteria may present so great a variety of symptoms as well as resemblances to other affections, that it is difficult to point out a treatment that will answer the demands of the system under all circumstances. During a severe attack of hysteria, the remedies selected may be administered frequently; during the interval between the attacks remedies must be selected to meet the condition of the system, so as to overcome the predisposition and obviate, if possible, the recurrence of the attacks, or to materially lighten them, should they recur, and it should be an invariable rule to remove all exciting causes as much

as possible. Nothing is more to be commended, when practicable, than walking or riding in the open air, for this course will tend to strengthen the nervous system and fortify the patient against the disease.

DIET.—The diet should be plain but nutritious, free from stimulants, such as coffee, wine, strong tea and malt liquors; bathing is also to be commended as a necessary means of refreshing and invigorating the system.

NOTE.—Where signs of plethora exist during an hysterical fit, *Aconite* may be administered every thirty minutes till the patient is relieved, and during the interval, if the pulse is full and bounding, a dose of this remedy may be taken every day. If the bowels are constipated, *Nux vomica* or *Lycopodium* may be substituted for the *Aconite*, until this difficulty is relieved, and particularly if there is torpor of the intestines, and during this time the patient should subsist upon a low diet and persist in regular exercise.

On the other hand, when the habit is languid, *Ferrum* may be administered during the attacks, and in the interval this remedy or *Stramonium* may be given in daily doses in connection with a more generous diet, provided the digestive function is not materially impaired.

Sulphur in the evening, and *China* in the morning, will prove useful in feeble and psoric constitutions in fortifying the system against the recurrence of the disease.

TETANUS.

This formidable malady, when general, consists in a permanent contraction of all the muscles, without alternations of relaxation; when partial, only some of the muscles are implicated.

This disease is termed trismus, or lock-jaw, when the lavator muscles of the lower jaw are the seat of contraction.

It is termed opisthotonos, if seated in the extensors of the body, so that the body is bent backwards.

If the body is thrown forward it is termed emprostotonos, and pleurosthotonos or lateralis if the body is bent to one side.

SYMPTOMS.—If the disease arises from a wound, the patient usually manifests great impressibility of the nervous system, with convulsive condition of the muscles of the neck and jaws.

In most cases the disease commences with permanent contraction of the masseter and temporal muscles, so that it is impossible to exert sufficient force to depress the lower jaw. At times the difficulty extends no further for several days; then the muscles of the neck may become implicated, and finally those of the trunk and limbs. Opisthotonos is the most common form of the disease, but it may assume any of the other forms.

The body, during the violence of the disease, resists every attempt to move it; the muscles are hard and drawn into knots; after awhile there is some diminution of the spasm, and the muscles may become partially relaxed and admit of some motion, and even allow a temporary use of the muscles of deglutition in the prehension of liquids; but a remission of this kind is very generally followed by a more severe spasm.

Death is a common result of this disease, and it appears to be induced by asphyxia, the mechanical operation of respiration being interrupted. The mind sometimes remains unmipaired, and the senses may remain almost to the last moment. The circulation generally becomes accelerated.

The most fortunate cases are those of trismus, or lock-jaw. Those less so, present the form denominated opisthotonos, and these are sometimes so severe that the sufferer can only rest on his heels and occiput. Not unfrequently the muscles of the abdomen and the diaphragm are affected with irregular spasms, occasioning severe suffering.

It has been regarded a favorable indication if the pulse does not exceed 110 per minute, on the fourth or fifth day of the disease, but this appears to afford a slight foundation for favorable prognosis. Sometimes the skin feels hot, and presents a temperature far above the ordinary elevation.

The disease sometimes terminates in a few hours, but at other times it may last several days, weeks or months. Andral states the average duration to be four or five days.

The *prognosis* of the traumatic form is usually unfavorable, though under homœopathic treatment it is probable that many cases may be cured.

CAUSES.—A predisposition in the nervous system, which when met by a sufficiently exciting cause, brings on the disease. The disease being more common in warm climates, leads to the inference that an elevated temperature of the atmosphere may be classed

among the exciting causes. Bathing in cold water, when the body is warm with perspiration, may also bring on the disease.

The pathological condition of various organs, such as inflammation of the intestines, or any irritation in the alimentary canal, as well as intense mental emotion, may give rise to it. Certain drugs also are known to produce tetanic convulsions, when administered to persons in health; *Nux Vomica*, *Strychnine*, and *Brucine*, are of this class. But in many instances the disease may occur without any assignable cause.

The precise change in the organism, or the organic cause or condition in the nervous system that favors the occurrence of tetanus, is not known, as no post mortem facts have been elicited that will warrant any conclusion as to what lesions, if any, may have existed, calculated to develop the disease. *Eccentrically*, it has been demonstrated that tetanus can be developed from injuries or irritations, at a distance from the medulla spinalis, but not, however, without some kind of morbid change being produced in this centre, or otherwise tetanus would not result.

It is by no means improbable but that tetanus may be developed *centrically*, that is, from some morbid change in the spinal marrow not all dependent upon an irritation in some remote part of the system.

That which is developed *eccentrically*, and called the traumatic tetanus, is by far the most common; the irritation is first induced in the terminal extremities of the nerves—it is thence extended to the medulla spinalis, and whether this condition of the medulla be one of irritation or inflammation, has been a question not yet settled. In a large number of observed cases, there has been considerable engorgement of the blood-vessels of the meninges or of the medulla itself, disclosed on dissection, but this appearance may be accidental and disconnected from the disease. Since, therefore, the intricate nature of tetanus is unknown to us, we must be governed by the symptoms in the treatment of the disease.

Treatment.—The treatment of tetanus homœopathically, may prove successful in some instances; under allopathic treatment, but little success attends the efforts of the practitioner. In the multitude of experiments that have been made by drugs upon systems suffering from this disease, it might seem reasonable to suppose that some have been hit upon having a homœopathic action. Such undoubtedly is the case with regard to *Strychnine*, *Hydrocyanic acid*, *Cannabis indica*, &c.

Arnica, *Belladonna*, *Cannabis indica*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lachesis*, *Nux vomica*, and *Pulsatilla*, are among the homœopathic remedies employed in the treatment of the disease.

Arnica has been particularly indicated when the disease has been produced from irritation arising from local injury, which is by far the most dangerous form of the disease. It may be used both internally and externally. This form of the disease, termed traumatic tetanus, may be arrested by treating external irritations, by applying the tincture of *Hypericum*. The same remedy taken internally may have a good effect.

Belladonna, in sanguine temperaments, is one of the most useful remedies for that form of tetanus brought on by a cold, or the lockjaw. It is also useful after *Arnica* in traumatic tetanus. The indicating symptoms are sensation of constriction in the throat, with tightness in the chest; grinding of the teeth, spasmodic clinching of the jaws, distortion of the mouth, foaming, interrupted deglutition, and removal or aggravation of the paroxysms on attempting to drink.

Cannabis indica is known to produce symptoms resembling tetanus, when taken in large doses by persons in health, and for this reason it may prove valuable as a remedy in the treatment of the disease. *Hyoscyamus* may be used in connection with *Belladonna*, particularly in trismus. *Lachesis* in *Opisthotonos*, and also *Stramonium*, *Opium*, and *Rhus tox.* From the fact that *Nux vomica* acts upon the medulla spinalis, this remedy may be usefully employed in the treatment of this disease in *sanguine* and *bilious temperaments*. *Pulsatilla* may be employed in persons of a mild disposition and lymphatic temperaments.

Mercurius viv. in trismus of an inflammatory character, with swelling of the angle of the lower jaw, and tension of the muscles of the throat and neck, from cold.

Sometimes it will be difficult to administer remedies, in consequence of the jaws being so tightly clenched, except by olfaction, or merely bathing the lips with the medicine in solution, or perhaps in the form of an *enema*.

Diet.—The diet will of course be necessarily simple, as it will be difficult for the patient to take much, except in the form of a liquid. Powerful stimulants have often been called into requisition as palliatives, such as laudanum, black drop, and brandy, but under

homœopathic treatment these should be discarded as obstacles in the way of a cure. The use of a flesh brush upon the surface of the skin may prove useful, but the application externally of revelants of any kind, whether in the form of sinapisms or ammoniated lotions, are believed to be pernicious. The use of cold or even tepid baths is not clearly seen, and therefore they should be employed with great caution.

RABIES HYDROPHOBIA.

The term "Hydrophobia," literally signifies a dread of water, which is recognized as the chief characteristic of the disease, produced by the bite of a rabid animal. Water, however, is not the only thing, the sight of which throws the patient into convulsions, for it has been observed that mirrors or polished bodies may have the same effect. Andral maintains that something closely resembling the disease may be occasionally met with in hysteria, and in some febrile affections accompanied with excessive nervous impressibility. The disease bears a close resemblance to tetanus.

Symptoms.—First, those which occur before convulsions take place, as follows: After an indefinite interval has elapsed from the time of the infliction of the bite, uneasiness is felt in the wound, which occasionally is re-opened, though under some circumstances, no local inconvenience is felt at all. At the same time, the patient complains of dulness and sense of heaviness in the head, is low spirited, and restless at night, often disturbed by terrific dreams, the appetite fails, and there is an indescribable dread in the countenance. These symptoms may occur from mere dread, without the positive existence of hydrophobia.

In the second stage, the symptoms are by no means equivocal; this is termed the characteristic stage, the invasion of which is denoted by the patient being attacked with a kind of convulsive shuddering, and very soon after with real convulsions of the muscles of respiration and deglutition. *The pneumo gastric nerve* in the larynx, as well as a portion of the fifth nerve in the face or fauces, appear to be subject to great impressibility, which is reflected upon the muscles of the pharynx and larynx, and the most distressing dysphagia or dyspnœa results. The convulsions come on in paroxysms, more and more frequent, and constantly increasing in intensity until death ensues.

A PAPER ON THE STATE OF MEDICAL SCIENCE IN
SOUTH AMERICA.*Read before the San Francisco Medical Society, 1854,*

BY C. W. BRINK, M. D.

MR. PRESIDENT:—

The various impressions made by the same subjects upon different individuals, is one of the most remarkable mental phenomena that we are called upon to contemplate.

This depends not upon differences of the external senses with which men see and hear, but upon peculiarities of the intellectual faculties. These faculties, like human features, are never precisely alike in any two individuals. Hence arises the diversity of opinion which we hear expressed upon the simplest subjects, particularly upon matters pertaining to medicine.

“The agitation of thought is the beginning of truth,” and more appropriately than to any other profession, does this axiom apply to our own: out of it—out of free interchange of opinion, the advantages to be derived from our organization as a society are to come: and these advantages will be in proportion to the freedom and frequency of our discussions, and the liberality with which we contribute information that chances to be in our possessions.

Acting upon this impression, I have prepared the following rambling paper on the state of medical science in South America; and I propose, (if it is agreeable to the society,) at our next meeting, to make a few observations upon some of the diseases and climactic peculiarities which came under my notice during a somewhat extensive journey through various parts of that continent. Upon this subject, I do not hope to impart instruction to those already familiar with the institutions of South America, and their influence upon medical practice—but merely to present a fragmentary view—to show how the customs of the past and present are blended together, and how the practices of physicians are tinged with the prevailing superstitions of the people. Facts, however trivial, are never without value, and some that were novel to me may not be uninteresting. But if I assign to common places undue importance, the society will please pardon an error of judgment, and give my desultory lucubrations the considerations they deserve.

To copy the customs and habits of their predecessors is one of the prominent traits of every nation ; and as we imitate the English in language, literature, science, and social habits, so the people of South America resemble those of Spain. To find a key to many of the prejudices and customs which impede the progress of medicine among the former, some of those of the mother country may be briefly alluded to. A native intolerance of character, and opposition to innovation ; a superstitious reverence for, and inconsistent perversity in adhering to the practices of the past, (peculiarities which retard improvement and paralyze the spirit of invention,) are the proverbial characteristics of Spaniards in every part of the world. These national traits of the Spaniard have exerted a powerful influence upon the healing art—and in its practice they exhibit much of that recklessness of life and indifference to human suffering, (a kind of stoicism which is of oriental origin,) and which indicates the history of the art : both the medicine and surgery of Spain came from the east. The names of the most common medicines used in Spain, (which are purely Arabic,)—the poverty of the *Materia Medica*—enriched only by quack nostrums from Paris—the absence in schools and hospitals of improved mechanical and surgical appliances, and modern discovery—the want of originality in medical literature, and the study of Galen, Celsus, Hippocrates, Boerhaave—and ignorance of the *names* almost, as well as the works of Hunter, Harvey, Cooper, and others equally illustrious—are all facts confirmatory of what I have stated—that on the Peninsula, sanative science is indeed degraded—and that its professors contrast strongly with the profound and philosophic physicians of other European countries.

The practice of medicine, even to the present day, is considered degrading, much of it being in the hands of Jews, (who were formerly held in high estimation,) armies of medical impostors overrun the country, and few only of the most eminent professors, who are not of a low cast, are admitted into good society.

Clerical interference in the healing art, (which, by the way, is so constantly exerted among us, to promote quackery,) exists to a greater degree in Spain ; and the clergy of the Romish church, are physicians' most active rivals.

The universities, being governed by ecclesiastics, once persuaded Philip III. to pass a law *prohibiting* any *new* system of medicine, and

requiring the study of Galen, Hippocrates, and Avicenna. So late, indeed, as 1830, priests, active in their opposition to innovation, frightened the timid Ferdinand into the belief that materialists, chartists, and revolutionists, were created by medical schools, and he forthwith shut up the lecture rooms.

It was, I believe, in 1845, that Pope Gregory issued three decrees: one to forbid railroads, another to prohibit scientific meetings, and a third to order all medical men to cease to attend invalids who had not sent for the priest and communicated after the third visit. In Spain the last requirement is invariably complied with.

Her standard of science, like "freedom's banner," streams backward against the wind. It is true that huckstering and abortive reforms, or rather, interferences of the government, occur from time to time, but no improvements are made. Ministerial decrees are issued periodically to prohibit physicians from prescribing, without a certificate from the *Fisico Mayor*, under a heavy penalty, hence the sick are compelled to employ empirical curanderos, who shorten the term of their sufferings, by the most approved modes of quackery.

There is no surer indication of a nation's character, or the state of morals or science, than *language*; and in Spain, the novelist, poet and dramatist, as well as the common people, by their frequent use of significant proverbs, show more clearly than history can, the deplorable condition into which the esculapian art has fallen. "The patients' tomb-stone," they say, "is indicated by the first feeling of the pulse." The mortality of the sick under medical treatment, is expressed by common people in a proverb which says: "They die like bugs." If the patient "suffers a recovery," they declare, "God works the cure, the doctor sacks the fee."

The efficacy of faith and the sanative influence of charms and relics, is religiously believed in, by physicians, as well as by priests and people; and the aid of saints more often invoked to cure the sick, than therapeutical agencies—miracles are more confidently relied upon in Spain than medicines.

It has been remarked by a facetious writer, that the scanty population of the Peninsula, may be accounted for by the state of obstetric science. Ignorant *comadres* usually preside over that department; and only in perilous cases, are the services of the (perhaps) more ignorant accoucheur required. The palladium of parturient

women, is the cinta or girdle of the virgin, (more wonderful than the fabled cestus of Venus,) and is resorted to and recommended by monks in difficult cases of childbirth. Not less ridiculous than conceits that the Chinese resort to (for their reputed property of procuring safe and easy delivery, and preserving the offspring in cases of dangerous parturition,) are those which still exist and form an important part of the knowledge of the Castillian obstetrician.

So little value is placed on the services of physicians, that fees are ridiculously small, one and two shillings being the equivalent for a professional visit. Recently we have been surprised by hearing of an individual, an entire stranger to the healing art, having received authority by a *royal decree*, to practice medicine. The types and press of Spain are agents ever active in advancing the interests of the impudent and mercenary impostors. All the bombast and extravagance of her hyperbolical language is energetically employed to commemorate their cures. One, with a plaster of mud or a powdered reptile, repels fever; another heals wounds and ulcers with a kiss; while a third—who has invented his own *Materia Medica*—has an infallible antidote for all the thousand “ills that flesh is heir to.” Once, a very Napoleon of empirics, having exhausted his usual resources in the vain attempt to cure a patient of dropsy, finally infected him with small-pox; he took the disease which spoiled his beauty, but cured the dropsy forever, and established the fame and fortune of the humbugging innovator. Greater triumphs of quackery than this might be recorded. The knaves who practice these frauds, do not accomplish their object with the characteristic ingenuity of impostors, but without the mask of candor, or the semblance of plausibility; boldly confounding all opinion, and denying all facts, they deride science, complacently smile at the duplicity of their plundered victims, and pursue their vocation of murder without mercy.

From all this it will be seen that Spain is the very paradise of quacks, that the success of empiricism is always in proportion to its absurdity. Physicians and priests unite in keeping the people in profound ignorance of all that relates to medicine, and under the mask of mystery, rival the uneducated charlatan, in the practice of the most disgraceful imposture. Still, as in the time of Cervantes, Dr. Sangrado is a fair representative of the profession. The dark age of medicine has not yet passed away from that once classic land.

The mighty tide of science seem to have flown on, and left her far behind other civilized countries, in all, at least, that pertains to the noble art of restoring health. While England boasts her perfection in practical medicine; France, her pre-eminence in Pathology. and Pharmaceutical Chemistry; and Germany her advances in Physiology and Anatomy, Spain exhibits only the cheerless prospect of a nation, every department of whose medical science remains stationary or is absolutely retrograding. This may be inferred from the fact that her medical literature is the most barren in Europe; that whilst in almost every country on the continent, and in the United States, the advance of medical and surgical science has been marked by a bright array of illustrious men, almost none have appeared in Spain. Except Argumosa, de Toca and Hysem, she has given us no remembered names. Even those of acknowledged celebrity are almost unknown beyond the frontiers of their native country; and the few authors whose works are pervaded by a spirit of philosophical research, and who possess a large share of industry and patient investigation,—even these exhibit minds like Enceladus beneath *Ætna*—encumbered with mountains of folly and mysticism. Vain and fantastic superstitions mingle like foul weeds with the bright waters of their philosophy, and monstrous hypotheses follow the track of all their discoveries: indeed Spanish barbarism has freighted the stream of centuries, and by the study of her so called science, we only obtain a glimpse back into the blackness of the unilluminated past.

May we not trust that ere long a change will be wrought, and that interesting country—rescued from the barbarism that now broods over it—will regain a position in science worthy an empire once the mightiest in Europe? It is, however, impossible to break through long established customs, and a difficult task to instruct an ignorant and superstitious people, in the laws of health or in approved modes for the cure of disease. The unenlightened ever cling to falsehood rather than to truth. It is natural for human nature to prefer error that comes from man, to truth, that descends from God.

The state of medicine in Spain, being such as I have imperfectly sketched, it is evident that similar causes produce like results in the Spanish colonies, out of which sprang the so-called Republics of South America. Besides indolence and effeminacy, which are the reigning characteristics of the higher, and ignorance and supersti-

tion of the lower classes of the South American States, the semi-barbarism of the Indian population, (many of whom retain the customs of their heathen ancestors,) exerts an influence upon the character; while bad government and a corrupt church despotism, cement the masses into one common chaos of the most degraded servitude and intellectual apathy. Added to hereditary influences of education, an intolerant church, and political oppression, still other circumstances have interposed obstacles to the progress of medical and surgical science.

Involving too many cares, vigils, and humble offices to suit the haughty pride, and indolent disposition of the Spaniard, the practice of medicine is to a great extent exercised by descendants of Indians, and by mulattoes, whose imperfect education and want of success impairs confidence, and brings discredit and disgrace on the profession.

The climate too, (much of that of South America being mild and enervating,) which so sensibly affects the moral, as well as the physical character—retards the development of masculine qualities of mind, and makes nations like individuals, effeminate and credulous—climate is another omniprevalent influence, having direct relation to the subject I am considering.

Over such a people, priests gain an easy conquest, and impose upon them the same mummeries that rapacious monks practiced in the middle ages.

Fees, as in Spain, are very insignificant, a few reals only being paid the physician for each visit. Medical men are prohibited from practicing, who have not received license from the Board of the *Proto Medico*. The ostensible object of this law is the protection of physicians in the practice of their profession, and of the public from imposture: its true object is the monopoly of medical practice. There are in the laws of every Spanish country, absurdities which seem only to indicate the folly of law-makers, and demonstrate the weakness and imbecility of the human mind. This law, the practical operations of which is to foster ignorance and imposture, and to bar the doors against the ingress of competitors furnishes a fair example. Like the physicians of ancient Egypt—who were compelled by law to obey the mandates of their medical code—the gentlemen who compose this body, follow with servile exactness the methods of practice recommended by authors, whose works are found with us, only in

the dusty collections of antiquaries—and they expect the foreign physician who is a candidate for their favor, to do the same. If, indeed, at the examination to which he is subjected, he exhibits any knowledge of modern science, and is not familiar with the medicine of Galen, and the surgery of Albucasis and Ambrose Paré—as well as with the local fooleries that degrade their own practice—he is rejected by the Board, and prosecuted by the authorities, if he prescribe—and so also is the apothecary who makes up his prescriptions. These restrictions upon legitimate practice, impairs confidence in physicians, the sick are accordingly preyed upon by swarms of curanderos, whose frauds triumph over the people's fears, and at last it becomes a kind of instinct with them not only to tolerate quackery, but to love and cherish it.

These are some of the circumstances which will, I think, explain the degraded condition of medicine, and account for the perpetuation of errors, abuses and corruptions which have marked its practice, from remote times in Spain, to the present day in her ancient possessions on this continent—and will, at the same time, give some notion of South American character.

Free ourselves from church despotism, accustomed to ceaseless activity and change, and daily witnessing novelties in social life, and in the arts and sciences—we cannot easily understand their torpid and stationary existence. As I have before remarked, priestcraft and the practice of medicine are there united, and account for the difference. To illustrate this further. When epidemics prevail, saints are supplicated for relief—prayers and contributions to the church being deemed more efficacious than pills, or the counsel of physicians—and maladies irremediable by their holy skill are given over as too desperate for cure. Conveyance of the sick to places consecrated by a miracle, or where the bones of a defunct saint are deposited, for the cure of certain diseases, is still a common practice. Men and women, intelligent upon other subjects, are so ignorant in all that relates to physic, that many of them do not know the names even of the most common remedies. Some (having borrowed the belief from the Indians,) deny the existence of diseases, as such, and when suffering pain, believe that an unknown and malicious enemy has cast a spell upon them, and resort to priests and magicians to discover the guilty persons. Reputed sorcerers are numerous, and (as among the Russian peasants) they supply the place of

physicians. We are told by Zimmerman, that in Chili physicians blow around the beds of their patients to drive away disease, and as the people in that country believe that physic, as well as disease, consists wholly in the mind, their doctors would take it ill of any person who would attempt to make the matter more difficult; they think they know enough when they know *how to blow*.

So greatly do they fear *air*, that I have seen a woman, having hemorrhage after delivery, refuse to be uncovered, and nearly flood to death under a pile of blankets. In uterine hemorrhage, there is however, a practice common among the people on the eastern side of the Andes, which seems to me an excellent one; it is to introduce a newly pared lime, or lemon, into the uterus, as an hæmastatic. So destitute are the inhabitants of some districts of medical resources, that many of the means adopted in the earliest times, for the relief of pain, are still resorted to: thus, instead of hot fomentations to the abdomen, the warm intestines of recently slaughtered animals are applied.

Some centuries ago, a Dr. Butler of Cambridge, ordered a cow to be killed, and his patient to be placed in the warm carcase; this is still a common practice in the pampa regions of South America, and baths of blood are there almost as frequently used to cure fever as Peruvian bark. The "oil of earth-worms" is another remedy used for many diseases, (for almost as many as the cod liver oil is given) and is found in every Boica throughout the continent. This was the grand catholicon of Campillo, one of the high priests of empiricism in Spain.

Not wiser than *Cato*, the censor, (who has favored us with an incantation for the reduction of a dislocated limb) the semi-barbarians of the Buenos Ayrean pampas, as well as the aborigines of Peru, believe in spells, witchcraft and amulets, and wear a bean at the temples—or sometimes an oval patch—as a charm against disease; some very intelligent persons profess to have cured nervous diseases by placing a gold chain upon the neck or limbs of the patient. Galen tells us of an Egyptian king, who believed that a green jasper cut in the form of a dragon, and applied externally, would strengthen the stomach and digestive organs. In some parts of South America there is found a species of jasper to which the Spaniards have given the name of "*Piedra de la Hydra*," and use it for curing colic by applying it to the navel.

The umbilical cord of a child is supposed to be efficacious in many diseases of children; and the skull of the *great beast*, (as they call the *Tapirus Americanus*) is used as a remedy against *Gutta Rosea*, and its claws against epilepsy. For head-aches and blindness, they suppose the teeth of poisonous serpents are specifics.

As a curious example of resemblance between the science of the Indians, and one of the absurd and preposterous hypotheses which disgrace the annals of ancient medicine, (I refer to that which has been called the "Doctrine of signatures") there are some tribes who believe that water drank from the hyoid bone of the howling monkey cures asthma.

The use of electric eels for paralytic affections, is another example of similarity in practice. Galen and others tell us that torpedoes cure gout and headache: they are still used for these purposes near the Atlantic coasts. Hippocrates, we recollect, recommends the roasted flesh of electric eels for dropsies that follow Hepatic diseases. It was reference to their employment in South America, that Gotte, a surgeon of Holland, wrote a treatise "On the medical properties of the *Gymnotus*."

For the more common maladies, either old women or Herbalists are consulted. The latter traverse the continent with collections of medicines from the mountains and forests, which they sell at high prices, and at the same time prescribe for the sick. Roots and balsams are their most common remedies.

Besides bark, *Ipecacuanha*, and the root of a plant belonging to the family of the *Euphorbia*—whose drastic and emetical effect is similar to that of the tartarized antimony—they possess many medicinal plants not found in our *Materia Medica*.

The *Ratanhia* is a remedy which the Indians have employed from the remotest times, for hemorrhage of the lungs and dysentery.

The southern provinces of Peru have long supplied Europe with this article.

The boldest of these itinerant physicians, sometimes practice blood-letting, and generally in the vicinity of the diseased part. Their mode of cupping is exceedingly primitive. The razor is used for a scarificator, and the horns of cattle for cups.

The more civilized *cirujanos* of the cities—like the old Spaniards—regard *leeches* as the saviors of the human race.

Other surgical operations are almost unknown; chirurgical science,

(I mean, of course, among people remote from the capital) is in as rude a state as it was before the conquest by Pizarro.

There are three remedies which are invariably used in all diseases: the Aqua Malvas, Jarabe de Goma, and Cataplasmas de Ginaza. These are domestic remedies, but physicians approve and constantly employ them, even in the treatment of the gravest disorders.

This will serve to illustrate the state of Therapeutics, and the following facts will show the state of practical medicine.

Diseases of the heart of every kind—even ordinary palpitation consequent upon gastric derangements, and venereal excesses—are denominated *anurisas*, and pronounced *incurable*.

Either ignorant of the Stethoscope, or unable to appreciate its eloquent teachings, the South American physician blunders sadly in the diagnosis of all thoracic diseases. In the treatment of these disorders, Digitalis is the sovereign remedy, and so familiar are even the most ignorant with its use, that if a physician adds it to a prescription, to answer an especial indication, he is told, "I've taken that, it did me no good, and I'll take no more."

Under the designation of tumors (or bultas) the Esculapian sages confound the various diseases of the abdominal viscera in which there is enlargement or induration. These errors of diagnosis depend upon carelessness, inadvertency, and an extremely limited degree of anatomical knowledge, never upon mistaken delicacy in the use of inspection, or manual examination, for unfortunate patients suffer martyrdom at every visit of the physician.

"*Incurable*," is the invariable reply made to the patient's inquiry as to whether he can recover—and this too, without reference to the site, size, form, consistency, connexion, or degree of sensibility. Whether the tumor is fluid or solid—whether pulsative or not—whether fixed or moveable, makes no difference in the doctor's prognosis. Indurated spleens, and hypertrophied livers—ovarian disease and enlarged mesenteric glands, are confounded and condemned to death. Even the prominent bellies of recti muscles, and masses of indurated fæces in the colon—mistaken for morbid growths—are not spared. The diagnosis of these diseases is, in short, as imperfect and uncertain as that of thoracic maladies were when Cullen wrote; and their treatment as empirical and barbarous, as the practitioner's ignorance is profound and pitiable.

This professional stupidity is equalled only by popular prejudice

and superstition. Thus, intelligent people when sick, even while employing a physician, seek for other aid, and swallow the ready-made prescriptions (stolen from various Pharmacopœis) of half educated amateur empirics, who, like unskilful archers, with well filled quivers, probably forget that by shooting in the dark, they not only miss the disease, but may destroy their friend.

A physician is often in attendance upon a patient without being aware that another is visiting the same case at the same time; in numbers they think there is safety. Strange, and almost incredible as these things may appear to those not initiated in the mysteries of South American etiquette, they are nevertheless of frequent occurrence. Popular opinion—anticipating Brown's exciting and debilitating—or sthenic and asthenic system, divides all medicines into hot and cold.

Hepatic disease is the grand pathological bugbear that eternally alarms the imagination of the South American. To it they make their therapeutical system conform. When angry—that is, when their bile is excited—they will not take cold water, believing it produces a bad effect upon the liver, and by chilling and contracting that important viscus, that it arrests the flow of bile and ends in fatal congestions. Most of the foreign medicines used are those which profess to be infallible remedies *for bile*—and they are numerous—for though Chileans and Peruvians prefer generally their own herbs and balsams, they do not eschew the compounds of more civilized nations. Hence, Brandreth pills, and numerous panaceas are bought and swallowed by the unconquerable Aurocano, on the banks of the Bio-Bio; and in the ancient capital of the Incas, among the descendants of the “Children of the Sun,” a ready market is found for modern quack nostrums. Not only do North American, French and English medicines abound, but native nuisances, in the form of physic, obtrude themselves like the frogs of Egypt, into almost every family. Thus we find that in the confidence they have in quackery—in assigning incredible virtues to inert substances—in their belief in everything that is involved in mystery—and in the employment of preposterous agents—supposing them to possess medicinal properties—the people whose medicinal character I have attempted to sketch, merely resemble more enlightened nations, and commit follies of which, with all the splendid views of modern science, we are ourselves guilty. When the practice

of a Thompson is *patented* by the United States Government, and another system (stolen probably from the practice of Celsus—who treated dropsy by throwing his patient into a pond of water) a system which has been refined by modern ingenuity into absurdity, that eclipses all the barbaric superstitions of the past, is encouraged in the most enlightened communities of America and Europe—when these things, I say, occur in nations whose progress in the arts and science is their proudest boast—ought we to wonder at the absurdities practiced by the semi-savages of South America?

So greatly does *climate* depend upon the physical character of a country, that geographical description is a necessary preliminary to the proper elucidation of its changes and influence in the production of disease: at present, however, I shall attempt neither a description of one, nor a detail of the other, but merely remark that the climate of South America varies greatly even in contiguous provinces.

In the southern parts of the continent, (west of the Andes) rain falls every month in the year, and often for forty days consecutively. To the north of these humid and forest covered countries, vast arid plains, more calcined than the deserts of Africa, stretch away for hundreds of miles along the coasts, south of the equator, to the foot of the Cordilleras.

These are occasionally scooped from the sea to the mountains, by broad ravines; and along the course of rapid streams, wide marshes and alluvial meadows, spread a surface exhaling effluvia which generate deadly disease.

Still farther east, the double chain of Cordillera—over which winter holds perpetual sway—separates the Pacific slope from the primeval forest regions, through whose dreary wildernesses the thousand tributaries of the mighty Amazon flow along the magnificent centre basin, to empty into the remote Atlantic. The climate of this vast territory—surpassing greatly the entire extent of Europe—embracing the loftiest mountain ranges, the vastest pampas, and most extensive forests in the world—and containing the Fauna and Flora of every zone—is of course, as various as its general features are multiform and interesting.

In the people occupying the warm and moist regions, obesity and laxity of frames is observed, and contrasts strongly with the hardier activity and healthfulness of the inhabitants of higher, cooler locali-

ties: and their diseases are as dissimilar as their physical and moral constitutions are various. Acute diseases are uncommon, they are indeed, almost impossible among a people whose reigning passion is indolence, whose highest happiness is idleness, and whose severest dissipation is sleep. The listless denizens of South American capitals, suffer, therefore, from nervous, neuralgic, hysteric, and dyspeptic diseases, as well as those arising from sensuality, besides numerous masked and shadowy maladies, the offspring of languor and *ennui*. While severe sthenic complaints, rapid in their course, and destructive to life, are common among the thinly populated regions of the wintry and barren Andes.

Again, in the elevated pampa districts, where the eye wanders over vast level deserts to the horizon, or to the snowy summit of remote Sierras, disease of a character different from that of other parts prevails, modified by dryness and rarefaction of the atmosphere, through which frozen winds sweep, from icy eminences, and chill the incautious traveller, especially if he be a tenant of the tropical vallies.

Public and private Hygiene, in South America is sadly neglected. In some, (as Lima,) buzzards, like the half famished dogs of some European cities, are the only scavengers. Nuisances the most offensive and deleterious to health abound. Ventilation is neglected, and the abodes of the rich and poor, are often alike dark and damp. Contrary to general belief, the climate of the capital of Peru, though agreeable, is extremely insalubrious. The great humidity, predisposes to many diseases. Fever and dysentery are common. The latter is sometimes epidemic, and its victims are numerous. Of the intermittent variety, which is severe throughout Peru, a large proportion of the city suffer. Some statistics which I have examined show that as many as 50 per cent. of the entire population have suffered from illness in a single season, 19 per cent. of whom died, and that too, when there has not been any prevailing epidemic. The gradually decreasing population shows the same thing. The census of 1836, gave 52,680, which is nearly 20,000 less than the city contained in 1820.

A part of this decrease, depends upon other causes, however, than disease—as the physical character and political character, of the country—causes which do not come within the scope of this paper to notice. The average number of deaths exceeds 3000. Criminal

abortion is more frequent than in any other city in South America, a fact which might be inferred from the acknowledged licentiousness which prevails. A passionate fondness for perfumes which with the ladies of Lima, rivals their love of display, is a prolific source of headache, and other nervous disorders. Gormandism is another crime common in Lima, and one which carries with it its own penalty.

It is remarked by a correspondent in Peru, to Dr. Dunglinson, that the climate of Lima is admirably adapted to Phthisis patients, while that of Chili is *not*. Now this is a mistake, (though I have heard it also so asserted by persons residing there) and arises, I believe from an error in diagnosis: *Chronic Bronchitis*, being mistaken for *Pulmonary Tuberculosis*, which disease is never benefitted (as abundant experience has proved) by removal to the warm and moist climate of the southern portion of the United States, or the West Indian Islands—but has been aggravated, and a fatal end hastened by the change. In such a climate, the humid atmosphere, and excessive heat, by promoting perspiration, diminishing the amount of ingesta, and reducing the strength, would promote secretion and expectoration, relieve the congested mucus membrane and thus benefit the bronchial disease, while the same causes would facilitate the softening of tubercles, and hasten death in phthisis.

In regard to the climate of Chili, there is no country in the world more remarkable for the dryness of its atmosphere—indeed, those who do not know that perspiration passes off insensibly, say that in Chili persons never sweat. It was so asserted, some years ago, by an intelligent German traveller, and is often repeated by the natives. This peculiarity of the climate of Chili, and the humidity of the Pacific side of the Andes north of the desert of Atacama—a peculiarity also equally remarkable in the inland forest regions, very materially modifies the operation of two extensive classes of remedies, viz., Diaphoretics and Diuretics, and illustrates the importance of designating (as Hippocrates did) the place in which opinions are written, before we accept or reject them.

In regard to the maladies, to which I propose making some allusion, the first in importance is Intermittent Fever. This is the most widespread disease of South America, and in relation to its etiology, the most interesting. Extending over the greater part of the continent, it is found from the equator to the frontiers of Patagonia, and

from the steaming vallies of the Pacific coasts in Peru, to the elevated plains of the middle Cordillera, down to the forests of Bolivia and Brazil, and makes almost uninhabitable some of the eastern coasts of the continent which are washed by the waters of the Atlantic.

Like the malarious diseases (as they are called) in our own Western and Middle states, it manifests itself in the ordinary Fever and Ague, or like the mild summer and autumnal epidemics in some places, while in others, it assumes a malignant remittent type—the well known scourge of tropical climates—and destroys life, or leaves patients sallow, emaciated, and almost invariably with hypertrophied spleens.

The effect of this subtle poison, upon the indigenous inhabitants of malarious districts, is too well known to need even a word in this place. In South America, as elsewhere, it makes very Edens deserts, and degrades their scanty denizens into mere vegetative beings, subject to all the forms of disease which follow in the train of malaria, and reduces them often to absolute idiotism. Like the capital of Brazil, where fevers were formerly unknown, the city of Lima has been recently visited by a severe epidemic of Bilious Remittent fever, of the congestive form, which was highly malignant, and destructive of life. In consequence of its being so alarmingly fatal, the natives call it the “Peste.”

From what I have learned of its symptoms, course, and sudden fatality, it is what, in the northern portion of the United States, is called the “Cold Plague.”

The *Yellow Fever* it certainly *is not*, being never attended by “the real *black vomit*,” by which I mean blood altered by its passage through the villous coat. Again, I have never heard of its being so *insidious* as the genuine Yellow Fever, nor is it marked by “the integrity of the mental faculties,” which Boisseau thinks invariable in the genuine disease. In regard to the *cause* of this disease—this is not, of course, the place to discuss it.

The strength of all arguments upon a scientific question, lies in facts, and, presuming none, however trivial, that relate to the causation of periodic fevers, can be wholly devoid of interest, I may mention some that struck me in passing. The *facts* I am going to notice are not *new*, but merely corroborative of what has been observed elsewhere. They all go to show that the old theory of the causation of periodic fevers, by marsh air, or by vegetable and

animal remains, is wholly without foundation in truth. I have seen diseases—supposed to be malarious—upon the borders of the desert of Atocama, where there is almost no trace of vegetation, as well as in loftier regions, where the low temperature would render the conditions usually supposed to be necessary to produce fever, *impossible*. Fordyce refers to a part of Peru, as being rendered almost uninhabitable by fevers and dysenteries, where there is an almost total want of water and vegetation. In the vallies of Santa Crux and Misqui, in Bolivia, fevers are referred to luxuriant crops of *Capsicum*, or some vegetable growth accompanying it. This is a popular corroboration of the opinion expressed by Dr. Robert Jackson, “that fevers are caused by an emanation from living vegetables, through the exuberance of organic life—the excess of vital vegetable action.” In some of the vallies of Peru, where these diseases are fatally prevalent, a heavy fall of rain is supposed to increase their severity. This corresponds with the fact, that “in Africa the greatest mortality is during the rains.”

There are places, such as sandy plains, parched and unproductive, which are pestiferous with fevers, entirely free from the supposed causes of malaria; and others remarkably *salubrious*,” where wide marshes and lagoons smoke under a burning sun, and vegetable and insect life (unsurpassed for variety and luxuriance) go rapidly through their transitions and decay in the hot and stagnant air of tropic summers. Such are some of the facts which prove, I think, that we are mistaken in what consists the symbols of a sickly climate; and that fevers of great intensity are common in localities where all the sensible conditions testify to the healthfulness of the climate. There are other facts, interesting in many points of view, which, perhaps merely add new difficulties to this puzzling department of medical inquiry that might be alluded to, but there is not time. Certain it is, that a false theory may survive if it be believed, but if known to be false, must be speedily overthrown. It is to be hoped the time is not far distant, when the profession will have arrived at definite opinions upon this question, and be no longer satisfied with vague and meaningless words about a mysterious something, supposed to be malarious, or an occult quality in the atmosphere of sickly situations, to account for some of the most interesting phenomena, in the production of disease, that we are called upon to study.

Already Mitchell, Cowdell, and a few, perhaps, of the Germans, have advanced opinions, and presented an array of facts, which will do much towards settling this mooted question in etiological science.

I would mention in passing, that the natives of the Peruvian forest regions prefer the *green* bark, of which they make infusions—supposing them to be more efficacious than the dry. Smaller doses cures: they also take it as a prophylactic against the fever.

Upon other local items of interest connected with this wide spread disease, enough might be written to fill a volume; but all the superstitious prejudices of South Americans, upon this subject—and they are numerous—are rational compared to the shallow nonsense (unhappily believed by many) that has been recently taught by a one-ideal M. D., whose name I have forgotten—that supposes all diseases—Squint, Stone, Apoplexy, and even Love—are *ague fits*.

It would seem from medical history, that periods of the greatest enlightenment, and countries farthest removed from barbarism, are most fertile in monstrous absurdity.

Another interesting disease, much of which came under my notice, is Goitre. It is called by the natives of districts where it abounds, the “Papas,” and sometimes grows to an enormous size, extending completely around the throat, like an inflated life-preserver.

The lower animals, as well as man, are sometimes affected, small Goiterous tumors having been found in foetal calves. In connection with this disease, in the lower animals, an Entozoon is often found, which introduces itself between the cutaneous and sub-cutaneous areolar tissue, and produces large malignant tumors and death. With respect to Bronchocele, as of most other diseases, it is more easy to say what is *not* than what *is* its cause—so many conflicting opinions obscure its etiology.

It was Saunders, I believe, who first opposed the opinion that it was caused by the use of snow-water. I have seen it in places where such water was *never* used. It is true, however, that in localities where it is used, the lower classes, who drink that of an impure quality, are more subject to this disease than those who correct its impurities by filtering.

The only place in South America where I have seen Cretinism, accompanying bronchocele, is in Jujui, in Bolivia, a town beautifully situated, remote from the mountains, and having none of the conditions, neither of situation nor other local circumstances—usually

supposed to operate as causes of these diseases in Switzerland and other infected localities. It is not, therefore, probable that goitre is engendered by other causes—that it depends, neither upon the Hydrology, the Geology, nor the Climatology of localities in which it is endemic? There is a substance which abounds in both kingdoms of nature, that is contained in almost all natural bodies, and is always found where goitre prevails—I refer to *Iodine*. This agent acts, we are told by Pereira, “sometimes without any perceptible alteration in the functions of the body.” Lugol asserts that “it encourages growth and increase of size”—that it stimulates the lymphatic glands, is an universal opinion; and abundant experience has shown that extremely minute doses (especially when there is an idiosyncratic susceptibility) are sufficient to affect the system.

I have already remarked Iodine is found in the inorganized, as well as in the organized kingdoms, in every country where Goitre is known. Mineral springs upon the sides of the Andes, and among the Alps, and many vegetables, indigenous to Goiterous countries, contain it. Dr. Smith has shown that it abounds in fresh water plants; and Chatin, of the school of Pharmacy, of Paris, in a paper read before the Academy of Sciences, stated that in the course of investigations upon this subject, he found Iodine in Horse-radish and other Tetradynamia. It also enters largely into the families of Algæ and Fungi, which are used as food and medicine, some of the latter having considerable reputation in South America as remedies in this disease.

The source of the Iodine in the Goiterous regions of South America, is the superficial saline deposits found in vast crusts on either side of the Andes—deposits which are, of course, of marine origin. The waters of most of the streams east of the mountains, in the Argentine republic, flowing along the pampas, are brackish and saline.

The success of Iodine in the cure of Goitre, has led us to infer that it is a sovereign remedy—if not a specific.

Now if it effects the thyroid gland as a *curative*, may it not also act as a morbid agent? If, as we know is the case, Iodine operates as a stimulant to the glandular system, may it not produce the diseased condition that it sometimes cures? Atrophy of the mammæ and testes are not unusual effects of this agent. May not Hypertrophy and Atrophy, though contrasting, in some respects, so strongly with each other, both be the result of *stimulation*, and increase or

wasting be the effect of the same agent? To stimulate nutrition is to produce Hypertrophy. To stimulate absorption, is to cause Atrophy. Is not this the simple and true explanation of the apparently contradictory operation of this agent upon the animal economy? These are interesting queries—and I may be allowed to express the hope, that they will be more fully discussed by members of the society more capable than myself.

The direction, it appears to me, that inquiry ought to take, is with respect to the function of the Thyroid gland—for Pathology and Therapeutics, as well as Etiological science, have their basis in correct Physiology. Whether the belief I have expressed be correct or not, cannot at present be shown. Theories may be untrue, therefore valueless; but the facts on which they rest ought to be remembered.

No subject has attracted more the attention of medical men, than Small-pox: and the following circumstances connected with that disease in Peru and Chili, are curious, and throw some doubt upon the history of its introduction into the new world.

The era assigned by Robertson, to its first appearance on this continent, is 1517, twenty-five years after its discovery. In a work by Montesinos, entitled "*Peruvian Annals*," reference is made to a malignant contagious disease, which desolated Peru, and numbered among its victims the celebrated Inca King Capac Yupanqui. The period of his death (if this author's chronology is correct) was about a century after Christ—an epoch when Peru had reached her highest elevation and extent: and the disease is said by Montesinos' translators to have been Small-pox. In the sacred and historical records, and in the traditions of the ancient Peruvians, as well as in those of the nations in the southern portion of the continent, we find abundant proofs that Small-pox existed there many centuries antecedent to the conquest.

Molina, in his "*History of Chili*," speaks of its having been introduced into Mouli, where it was fearfully destructive of life.

It seems to be peculiarly fatal to the Indian race, we recollect the destruction of the Mandans, a powerful tribe of Upper Missouri, and I have heard it remarked that it is also generally fatal to the Polynesian. Cow's milk is said to have been used by the *Aurocanos*, to cure small-pox; and it is a singular coincidence that about the year 1779, milk was recommended in Paris, by M. Lassoné, for the same purpose.

When an Indian dies of this disease, his hut is burned; a custom which also prevails among the *Abyssinians*.

In the province of Tarija, on the southern frontier of Bolivia, there prevails that rare form of scaly cutaneous disease known to us as Lepra. It is there believed to be contagious, and an asylum, similar to the *lazar-houses* which were once established over Europe for lepers, is set apart for the subjects of this disease; and, as in Scriptural times, the unaffected shrink with disgust from its inmates, who are left to die or recover, as chance or Providence pleases.

There are also found in various parts of *South America*, other peculiar cutaneous affections. Of these, the Verugas is one of the gravest. It is attended by sore throat, deep seated pains and fever, which is followed by a peculiar eruption. Abscesses or tumors then form, and from them, hæmorrhage—often so great as to destroy life, or to leave the patient exhausted and disposed to Phthisis—occurs. This disease is said to be caused by the use of certain waters, which affect the lower animals, as well as man. The Indians treat it by giving an infusion of a plant called Huajra, which operates simply as a sudorific, and is of very doubtful efficacy. Stimulants are necessary, and removal of the large hæmorrhagic tumors by operation. Keeping the wound open, to promote suppuration, is recommended by Tschudi. Another disease said to be peculiar to Peru, having some features in common with Cancer, and which is even more fatal than the Verugas, is the Uta. The Sarma, a kind of Eczema, which produces scabs, and leaves purple blotches, resembling but having no connection with Syphilis, is another example of the local diseases, which prevail in Peru.

It is remarkable that some races suffer from one, some only from another of these baneful scourges; and it is equally strange that almost every valley and district has its peculiar disease; they depend, doubtless, upon some unknown quality of the climate.

It is not unusual to find as sequelæ to these diseases, serious lesions, sometimes in the form of indolent ulcers, upon the lower extremities, which have not, however, any of the characters of the original disease.

As to treatment—the great difficulty to be encountered is the over- officiousness of friends, whether old women, quacks or physicians—then, instead of attempting to cure the disease, or its consequences, by name, as many do, careful inquiry into the peculiarity

of the place in which the disease was contracted, and the exhibition of remedies appropriate to the symptoms, will be the best that can be done for the patient.

The native practice is, to pursue old womanish routinism, as though one ointment, lotion, plaster or poultice, were a panacea to be employed in all cases indiscriminately. Indeed, the fatal termination of severe and malignant diseases is often hastened and the patient's sufferings increased a thousand fold, by the application of numerous substances, which, in the very nature of things, can have no other than a harmful effect. The sick, however, are proverbially credulous; accordingly, armies of empirical knight-errants, who are ever ready to enter the lists against science and common sense, spread themselves over the land, and besides keeping down the excess of population, they pamper the cherished prejudices of the vulgar. But to return. The right understanding of these diseases, as indeed of all others, is in one sense half their cure; to consider this subject in detail, would, however, exceed the limits of my paper, and I must pass on.

The *Veta*, or (as it is called in various localities) *Puna* and *Soroche*, that distressing complaint caused by rarefaction of the atmosphere, in the elevated regions of the Andes, has a curious feature or two, which I may be permitted to mention. It is attended by violent headache, with fulness of the superficial veins, difficult respiration and coldness of the extremities; often epistaxis and even hemoptysis are produced by it. The attack usually comes on, *not* at the point of greatest elevation, but below, and often when making the *descent* of a mountain. Bloodletting is often necessary to give relief. The natives use garlic, crushed, and in bolus, for themselves and animals, both as a preventive and during the attack. The opinion prevalent among the learned from the remotest times, that atmospheric air becomes vitiated by gathering poisonous qualities from mineral exhalations, is still popular in South America. One of the synonyms of this condition, the *veta* or *vein*, is derived from the belief that it is caused by metallic veins, diffusing around a poisonous infection; many suppose the noxious metal to be Antimony. Why these distressing symptoms are less felt at the greater elevation, than when making the *descent*, or why *Allium* relieves them, I do not know.

There are other interesting points touching the diseases, and

means resorted to for cure, in South America, both curious and instructive, that might be briefly alluded to, were there time, but my paper is already sufficiently lengthy. If the patience of the Society will permit me to mention an interesting osteological anomaly found in the Peruvian races, I shall have done. According to recent observations made by Tschudi and Rivers, three distinct races dwelt in Peru, before the foundation of the kingdom of the Incas.

The cranial configuration of these natives, (called the Chinchas, Aymaraes and Huancas) is so distinct as to have enabled those gentlemen to assign each its geographical locality. In them all is found the anomaly (which is a distinct inter-parietal bone) that I have alluded to.

This bone, as its name indicates, will be found, says Tschudi, "placed between the two parietals, and having a form more or less triangular, whose sharpest angle is above, and is bounded by the posterior edges of the parietal bones, while its base attaches itself to the occipital bone by a suture which runs from the angle of the union of the temporal with the occipital, a little above the semicircular line, to the similar angle on the opposite side. It follows that this inter-parietal bone occupies precisely that part of the occiput which in other crania is occupied by the upper portion of the occipital, and which is connected with the parietals by the lambdoidal suture." After a year, union with the occipital is not completely affected, except in the middle, and a furrow shows a trace of the suture, which is not obliterated even at the most advanced age, and may be easily recognized in *all* the crania of *all* these races. I have examined many Peruvian skulls, taken from ancient tumuli, and in none was it absent.

The length of the inter-parietal bone in a youth ten or twelve years of age, examined by Tschudi, was four inches at the base, and an inch and ten lines high; dimensions which sufficiently prove that this singular formation is not to be confounded with that of the small supernumerary bones, called *Wormeana*, which are sometimes found between the parietals; from these it is distinguished by largeness of size, regularity of form, and uniformity of shape and position; so that the interparietal bone is a true anomaly. It was first mentioned by Doctor Bellamy, and has since been examined by other observers.

It is a circumstance worthy of the attention of learned Anthropologists, that there is thus found in one section of the human race, a perpetual anomalous phenomenon which is wanting in all others, but which is characteristic of the ruminant and carnivorous animals.

I am aware that this is a subject too interesting and important to be discussed in the concluding paragraph of a sketch paper. Having relation to the great question of the unity of our species, I feel incompetent to subject it to scientific analysis and criticism, and merely mention it as one of the most interesting of many facts that fell under my observation during an extensive gallop through South America.

CLINICAL RECORD.

CONGESTION OF THE BRAIN.

A physician from the country writes as follows: I have had a large number of patients, and have made not a few unwilling converts to Homœopathy. I have had several *severe cases*, three of which had been given up by physicians of the old school, as beyond the reach of medicine, but all of whom are now well.

One of these, an infant, four weeks old, was pronounced to have inflammation of the brain, with effusion. I found it comatose, with irregular gasping respiration, limbs cold, some redness of the face, and evidences of congestion. I gave three doses of Belladonna during the subsequent six hours. At about this period, it roused up and grew warmer. After this, its lungs seemed literally choked up with mucus. Under the administration of Ipec. 3d centesimal dilution, in seven days the child was well. No other remedies were given.

AGGRAVATIONS FROM BRYONIA.

Last winter, whilst attending lectures in Philadelphia, I learned from some of the professors that Bryonia would not bear too frequent repetitions, and that often it would take twenty-four hours to show its curative effects. Being called recently to a case of asthma, where Bryonia appeared to me to be indicated, I administered that remedy, giving orders, as it was a very severe case, to repeat the medicine in half an hour, and perhaps omitting to say, as I should certainly have done, if no relief followed. The patient thought she

felt relief from the first dose, but the administration of the second dose was followed by so severe aggravation, that before my return, an allopath was sent for, and thus I lost the case. The only FATAL case I have had since I have been here, now about six months.

In another case, I administered Bryonia for an affection of the chest, at intervals of several hours. After the second dose, the pleuritic pains became aggravated and excessively severe.

BRYONIA IN A CASE OF RHEUMATISM.—A CURE FROM ONE DOSE.

A boss workman in a rolling mill had rheumatism of the metatarsal joints, but his business was of such a nature that he could not leave it as long as he could move. Profiting by past experience, I gave Bryonia, one dose in the morning. He was on his feet constantly for fifteen hours—very painful and sore at night—but the next morning he was well. These cases, so far as they go, are illustrative, and are certainly deserving of further confirmation.

I see so much to be done in this region, I long to be ten men instead of one, or to be endowed with a partial ubiquity, so as to be enabled to do at least a portion of that which invites labor. I do not like to be so alone as I am, but I trust if this region shall get a sprinkling of medical truth through my instrumentality, it may be that of pure Homœopathy. I am yours truly,

S.

TRISMUS.

BY DR. BATTMAN IN GROSSHEIM.

From the Zeitschrift für Homœopathische Klinik, Vol. 4, No. 14.

Translated by JACOB F. SHEEK, M. D.

The patient up to the age of twenty years had been healthy and robust. On Whitsun Monday, divested of his coat, he rolled ten pins several hours, taking no refreshment during the time except a few glasses of brandy. About 9 o'clock, P.M., of the same day, he suddenly fell over, and was taken home perfectly senseless; after which he somewhat revived, and began to look about, and appeared partly to recover his senses, but was totally unable to speak. I arrived at 10 o'clock, P. M., and ascertained that the inability to speak was caused by complete lock-jaw. And with all the exertion and trouble I took, it was impossible to get his mouth open. Upon

questioning the patient, I learned from him by his nodding, that he had violent pain in the articulation of the lower jaw. I then gave him several drops of Belladonna, 1st dilution, which I managed to introduce between the lips and teeth. The next day, the patient called on me, and related that about midnight the cramp of the jaw subsided, and that he now felt perfectly well, and had no recollection that I had visited him, or of the state he had been in. Himself as well as his companions were (on that account) the more satisfied with the cure, because they, in their fright, having called the shepherd of the village, he stated that sheep were sometimes attacked with trismus, and it invariably proved fatal.

CANCEROUS TUMOR OF THE BREAST.

BY DR. CADE.

From the Zeitschrift für Homœopathische Klinik, Vol. 4, No. 14.

Translated by JACOB F. SHEEK, M.D.

Dr. Cade, from Bourg Saint Andeol, who has seen the bad results in the majority of instances, where operations have been performed, for Cancerous Tumors, relates the following interesting case of Cancer of the Breast, which was cured by the use of *Conicin*, as recommended by Devuy and Guillemonu of Lyons.

Madame D., 40 years of age; Cancerous Tumor deeply imbedded in the right breast, under the nipple, moveable, uneven and hard; transverse diameter of the tumor, six centimeters or twenty-four lines; longitudinal diameter, four centimeters or sixteen lines; symptoms, shooting pains as if electrical, extending from the breast to the end of the fingers of the right hand, which leaves a feeling of numbness in the whole arm, frequent headaches, diminution of appetite, bitter taste, weak digestion, complexion yellow, hectic fever with loss of strength, and wasting away. Dr. Cade ordered the patient to take one pill daily of *Conicin*, as prepared by *Quillermant*, at Lyons, at the same time to use the *Conicin liniment*, as prepared by him, externally, allowing the patient a strengthening diet, avoiding all herbs and acids. Every week the patient took one pill more, daily until she took four per day. In the latter part of December the tumour had decreased about one-half, was less painful, so that the patient was able to sleep at night. Continued this treatment, until May. The tumour has entirely disappeared, and the patient is perfectly well.

EXCERPTA.

The following articles are taken from the "Half-yearly abstract of medical sciences," and from their interest to the profession generally, whether allopathic or homœopathic, are deemed worthy of particular attention.

CASE OF SMALL-POX IN UTERO, BY M. BLOT.

(*Gaz. Méd. de Paris*, Nov. 25, 1854.)

This case is related in the Report of the Proceedings of the Parisian "Société de Biologie."

CASE.—The mother of the little patient, previously in good health, and six months advanced in her second pregnancy, was attacked with small-pox on the 17th of July, 1854. She had not been vaccinated, but the attack was not severe, and she recovered without any secondary fever. During her illness the movements of the child were more continuous than they were before, but not so energetic; during her convalescence the same movements became more and more feeble, until they ceased altogether, and the child was felt to fall towards the side on which the mother happened to lay. Two days after this cessation, labor came on unexpectedly, and the mother removed to the "Clinique d'Accouchments," where she was presently delivered of a male foetus of the six and a half or seventh month covered with pustules of small-pox. This foetus presented unequivocal evidence of having been recently alive, and there was every reason to believe that it had had the small-pox at the same time as its mother, and that it had died from this cause.

THE BANEFUL EFFECTS OF EXTREME COLD.

(*Medical Times and Gazette*, March 3, 1855.)

The late frost, which has been more continued and severe than any which has occurred in England since the year 1814, and as severe and prolonged as this—indeed there was only a difference of 2° in the mean temperature, and of two days in the duration of these two remarkable frosts—furnishes a striking illustration of the baneful effects of increased cold, as may be seen in the subjoined quotation: "In the six weeks of severe frost, the deaths of 9408 persons have

been registered. These deaths exceed the average by 1968; which appear under various diseases, and were the indirect results of the low temperature. The temperature of the six weeks was 28.4° on an average, and the deaths were nearly 100 weekly to every degree of depression below the freezing point of water. But the cold affected persons very differently, according to their age; for, in the five weeks that ended on Feb. 17th, at the first age of manhood (20 to 40), the cold did not destroy 2 in 10,000; at the age of 60 to 80 it was fatal to 38 in 10,000. If the average deaths at each of the five ages are subtracted from the deaths in the five weeks of cold weather, the numbers that are left to represent the deaths by cold are 367 children and youths under 20; 159 young men and women of 20-40; 290 middle-aged persons of 40-60; 561 of 60-80; and 173 of 80 and upwards. Upon dividing these numbers by the persons living of the corresponding ages, we find that the mortality by cold in the 100,000, was at the rate of 35 under the age of 20, and 18, 64, 382, and 1749 at the four subsequent ages. The above numbers show that the power of cold on life varies according to definite laws; thus the mortality by cold is (35) twice as great under the age of 20 as the mortality (18) at 20-40; but, after that turning point, the power of resisting cold, decreases every year, and men of 90, and men of 30, have suffered from the cold that we have experienced in the proportion of 100 to 1 (or of 1749 to 17.5). The general result is, that the danger after 30 of dying of cold is doubled every nine years of age; for out of the same numbers living, to 1 death by cold at the age of 30, there are 2 at 39; 4 at the age of 48; 8 at the age of 57; 16 at the age of 66; 32 at the age of 75; and 64 at the age of 84. This series at least expresses very nearly the relative mortality by cold at the respective ages, during five weeks among two and a half millions of people."

AN ARTIFICIAL TYMPANUM.

Dr. Taynbee, of London, has written an able article on the use of an artificial tympanum for giving hearing to the deaf. As to the mode of inserting the new drum, he says:—The operator should cut the artificial membrane as nearly of the size and shape of the natural one as possible, taking care to keep the margin quite smooth and regular. The patient must then be placed with the head

inclined to the opposite shoulder, while a strong light is thrown into the meatus, which, if liable to discharge, should have been previously syringed. The artificial membrane is now moistened with water, and passed, by means of a silver wire, gently inwards, until it has reached the natural position. The test of the membrane having been properly placed, is the sensation of the patient, who discovers by the sound of his own voice, or that of the surgeon, or by the movement of his tongue and lips, that his hearing has suddenly been much improved.

EDITORIAL.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR.

The following article has been circulating in the papers for some time past, headed—

EXTRAORDINARY SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY.—A discovery has been made in Paris, by which any metallic poison, such as lead, mercury or arsenic may be extracted from the system, by the potent agency of electricity. The *modus operandi* is as follows :—A metallic bath is insulated on glass legs and partially filled with acidulated water, to convey more readily the electrical currents. The patient lies upon a seat in the tub insulated entirely from the bath. When gold, silver or mercury is in the system, nitric or hydrochloric acids are employed. When lead is suspected, the acid used is sulphuric. This done, the negative pole of the battery is put in connection with the bath, while the positive pole is in the hands of the patient. Now the work of purification commences. The electricity precipitates itself, hunts, digs, searches, and discovers every particle of metallic substance concealed in the most profound tissues, bones, nerves, and joints of the patient, resolves them into their primitive forms, and extracting them from the human organism, deposits them upon the side of the bath, where they can be seen with the naked eye.

It appears that this extraordinary discovery of some Parisian savan is now claimed by a gentleman residing in New York city, who has written to the editor of the *Tribune* the following note—

SIR:—Having observed in your journal an article copied from a Columbus (Ohio) journal, which has also appeared since in several prints, describing a method for extracting metals from the human system, I find the process so much like the one I have been practising in this city ever since 1852, that I consider it proper to apprise the public that what the pretended inventor calls his discovery, not only belongs to me, but that the process therein described is not effective for the purpose so stated. The following is an extract from the *Union Medicale* in 1854, the circulation of which is very extensive in France, England and other countries—

“The remedy was first introduced by Professor Vergnes, of New York, the backs of whose hands were seriously ulcerated, occasioned by the absorption of the nitrate of silver during the process of gilding and silvering by the galvanic battery, Mr. Vergnes having immersed his hands in an electro-chemical bath at the positive pole of a very powerful pile, a metallic plate of several inches surface was, in a quarter of an hour, covered with silver. A few baths proved sufficient to cure the ulceration, which had resisted the most active remedies. This trial was made in New York, on the 16th of April, 1852, and has since been successfully followed by many others, thus leading to the introduction of a new method for extracting metals from the human system.”

The nature of the operation and process has been evidently misunderstood by both Youngman and Sellger, as the handle producing positive electricity should be of iron and covered with some acidulated linen. The body of the patient, when wholly in a bath, or when the feet alone are there, must be isolated from the metal of the tub or basin by a piece of board about an inch thick. They have also not correctly described the liquid to be used in the bath. It varies according to the nature of the metal to be extracted, which sometimes requires the use of bicarbonated soda for the purpose.

Respectfully, yours, VERGNES.

We wish, in the first place, to ask Professor Vergnes whether any publication of the facts in this case has appeared in this country, except as copied from the French or transatlantic journals, and whether it would not be promotive of his true interests to prepare such an article as should embrace full details of all that is now known on a subject so full of interest to men of science, as well as to the medical fraternity.

2d. We wish to inquire whether such discoveries as these do not disprove the theories of those allopathic physicians who contend that the human organism can only be acted upon for the restoration of health by crude material doses, and cannot be affected by dynamic power, or by influences so delicately attenuated as to be imperceptible to sense.

We would ask these physicians to tell us in what form the nitrate of silver existed in the system of the professor. Was it held in solution? Did it pervade only the blood and the juices of the body, or did it pervade the whole organism? Could it be made sensible as it existed in these ultimate particles in which it was divided and subdivided so as to produce ulcerations and similar phenomena?

Does electricity act by some crude material agency in eliminating from the system the various mineral poisons over which it appears to exert so wonderful a control? What is electricity itself—can you measure one of its infinitely attenuated molecules of matter so as to determine its length, breadth and thickness, or can you even determine that it is matter at all?

Until you can answer questions like these, it becomes you to be a little modest in your assumptions about the efficacy of attenuated medicines; to consider whether after all your crude doses of drugs, your raw materials of coarse and unprepared substances, are so essentially necessary to the restoration of health.

May it not be better, that they should be a little more attenuated, to bring them, previous to their administration, upon the same plane, or to approximate them to the same class of agencies, as the diseases they have to combat, as is illustrated by other operations of nature?

These questions it becomes you, gentlemen, to consider attentively, before you boast too much of your coarse material doses, or condemn too indiscriminately the Homœopathic attenuated remedies.

DURATION OF HUMAN LIFE IN WOUNDS OF THE HEART.

From a pamphlet published by Samuel S. Purple, M. D., New York, containing statistics of 42 cases of wounds of the heart, the results appear to be, that in wounds of the right ventricle, the longest continuance of life was 29 days; the shortest, instant death;

the average, 9 days. In wounds of the left ventricle, longest duration, 66 days; shortest, 5 minutes; average, $13\frac{1}{2}$ days. In wounds of the right auricle, longest duration, 7 days; shortest, $2\frac{1}{2}$ days; average, $4\frac{3}{4}$ days. Two cases in which both ventricles were wounded, longest, 6 days; shortest, 4 days.

RECAPITULATION.

Right ventricle.

Longest duration, 29 days.
Shortest " instant death.
Average " 9 days.

Left ventricle.

Longest duration, 66 days.
Shortest " 5 min's.
Average " $13\frac{1}{2}$ days.

Right auricle.

Longest duration, 7 days.
Shortest " $2\frac{1}{2}$ days.
Average " $4\frac{3}{4}$ days.

These cases are too few in number, and cannot probably be depended on, as forming any ground of correct inference in regard to the comparative danger from wounds in different portions of the heart. As statistics, however, they possess an interest, and especially as disproving the generally received notion, that instant death is a necessary result of wounds of the heart.

Philada., Sep. 17th, 1855.

TO THE PUBLISHERS OF THE PHILA. JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY:—

GENTLEMEN—My health having been such since the commencement of the present volume of the Journal, as to prevent me, in a great measure, from discharging my duty as assistant Editor, I feel compelled to relinquish the station,—I cannot consent to assume any part of a responsibility, to which, by force of circumstances beyond my control, I am prevented from bestowing that care and attention which in justice to your readers and patrons would be demanded of me. You will therefore oblige me by dropping my name from this date. Hoping that you will secure more able assistance, and a valuable acquisition to the post which I resign,

I am truly yours,

A. E. SMALL.

NOTICE.

As only a few copies of the SYMPTOMEN CODEX, by Charles Julius Hempel, M. D., 2 vols., are on hand, the former price of \$11 00 has been raised to \$14 00. The price of the Repertory remains unchanged, \$6 00. Those Physicians not already supplied with this valuable work will therefore do well to order a copy immediately.

WILLIAM RADDE, Publisher.

New York, Sept. 1, 1855.

TRACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

The Publishers beg to announce that they will commence this month the publication of a Series of

POPULAR TRACTS ON HOMŒOPATHY

for general distribution among all classes of the people. They respectfully urge this matter upon the attention of Physicians and the friends of the New School, as the best and most certain means of diffusing accurate information upon a subject in which every member of the community is deeply interested.

Tract No. 1, (containing 8 pages, on the Progress of Medical Science,) is now ready, and will be furnished, free of postage,

At \$2 00 per Hundred Copies.

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — OCTOBER, 1855. — No. VII.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

OUR LITERATURE.—A REVIEW.

BY JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M. D.

(Continued from page 264 of Vol. IV.)

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. ADOLPHUS LIPPE, TO MEDICAL SCIENCE.

“ And he would gaze upon his store,
And o’er his pedigree would pore,
Until by some confusion led,
Which almost look’d like want of head,
He thought their merits were his own.”

MAZEPPA.

An article entitled “ *The Homœopathic News—its Critiques and its College, reviewed,*” appeared, under the signature of the writer, in the July number of this journal. That article had been written six months, at least, before it was published. It was laid aside, for the time, for two reasons ; first, there seemed to be a hope of uniting, both parties—the German and the American—in one benevolent and much-to-be-desired object,—*a public Homœopathic Hospital*—which for a time promised very fair ; until the representative of the former resigned from the committee, and, of course, his adherents followed suit. And the scheme rests now in abeyance till men of character and influence, who are above party feeling, and vulgar intrigue, shall unite in earnest, and with the usual energy which characterizes American undertakings, prove that homœopathy shall be as well represented and have as open and large a field of action in Philadelphia, as in the cities and towns of Great Britain and continental Europe. Secondly, the article having been read to no

less than four medical men, it was suggested by one that the efforts of the party to injure our books and college would prove futile, and that although the criticism would hasten the death of the "News," before its allotted time, and completely swamp the party of which it was the exponent, they, instead of answering, would "*turn round and fling dirt at us.*" We give the prudent and prophetic advice of our good friend, in his own words! But time and circumstances proved to the author the necessity of allowing the article to appear at any cost, and even at the risk of personal annoyance. The criticism was intended in good faith to be a fair, candid, severe, but *strictly correct*, review of the literary pretensions and real objects of the "Homœopathic News;" or in other words, of the writers whose initials were the only thing that identified them with the articles under which they stood. Up to this day, a single line has not appeared in any journal or other public organ, denying the truth of its statements or the justice of its intentions. But we have heard *viva voce* complaints of its "great severity," of its being "too personal," and of "their being no necessity" to call forth so damaging a piece of sarcasm.

To all these we answer, first, that it *was intended to be severe*, because we do not do things by halves; nor is it according to our custom to do anything we undertake indifferently; that some men are most effectually dealt with after their own fashion, or "paid in their own coin,"—though in this case the stamps differ somewhat and the sterling value is at great odds—and that those who shrink beneath the lash and groan under its stripes, should never be the first to use it with an unsparing hand. Secondly, that it is only "personal," in a *literary sense*; for who is there that puts forth his silly nonsense and childish trifles with all the conceit and pomp of a philosopher and is not laughed at, as "a fool for his pains," by the really educated portion of the community. And, thirdly, for the "necessity" of the thing we beg to refer them to the paper we have reviewed. They will find it devoted to unjust and uncalled-for remarks upon our standard works, and to an effort to establish a new Homœopathic College which all know to be intended as an opposition, to our already existing school. The Homœopathic College of Pennsylvania,—the first of the kind at home or abroad—and as such should rather be considered as an object to call forth the sympathy, the co-operations and the reverence of every true

lover of our system. This institution has already shed its light over the vast surface of the American continent, and its members have gone forth to ameliorate disease and improve science to the very ends of the earth; it has served the distinguished and noble advocates of the reformed school in other lands as a prominent argument to add weight to their petitions, and strength to their demands, when they deemed it necessary to challenge the attention of crowned heads and imperial governments to the claims and truth of our science! We saw, with deep regret, that many of our most reputable and unsuspecting citizens were led by interested parties, not only to frown upon this noble school of medical science, but to lend the weight of their influence and wealth to a rival scheme, which had neither aim, end, or utility beyond that of a factious opposition, which was so adroitly kept out of sight by the "*wire pullers*," that those honest and unsuspecting men never dreamed they were dealing a death-blow to the cause of Homœopathy by helping to destroy the first stronghold it had erected in the world!—from which already an army of our fellow graduates, numbering no less than between two and three hundred men, has gone forth to fight the battle of life and health with premature disease and death! And it is only just to all parties to state that they were as well drilled and equipped as any set of men sent out from any medical college in this city; and our opportunities and habits of observation enable us to speak with some confidence upon this point. So that on public and national grounds we felt called upon to use our pen in defence of our college. But we had other strong reasons for our advocacy,—we will give but two—one founded on *feeling* and the other on *personal interest*. We do not expect a large number of sympathizers in the first of these, but perhaps the second will compensate for such deficiency. Still, there are in every community many, who, like ourselves, look back upon those happiest days spent in the seats of learning of their early years, who feel that they can say from the heart

“and dear the school-boy spot

We ne’er forget, though there we are forgot.—”

No true man, in whose veins flowed the pure stream of nature’s nobility, ever yet denounced his native land;—however dear the country of his adoption, and strong the ties that bound him to a

new home, insulted the memory of the parents to whom he owed his being;—however humble their origin, or distant the turf that covered their forsaken and forgotten ashes, nor the roof-tree under whose peaceful shelter he imbibed the first draughts from the fountain of knowledge. And still less likely is *he* to prove ungrateful or insensible, who, in riper years, within the walls of Learning's highest temple, quietly stored his mind at the feet of his literary fathers, and—

“Hiving knowledge with each studious year,”—

proved by the most convincing of all arguments the immortal expansion and progressiveness of the human soul! Or he, who, on the days when halls, corridors and galleries, thronged with beauty and worth, echoed the triumphs of learning, genius, and mental ascendancy, won applause, laurels and more substantial glory than fortress, camp, or battle-field ever yet yielded! Such men can never denounce, forget, or prove disloyal to the seat of such proud and holy memories. What scholar does not know that the value of his degree depends, in a great measure, upon the estimation in which his college stands with the public? And although that badge does not, in all cases, imply genius, or mental originality, still the seal of any well known and respectable university guarantees scholarship. And if the *alma mater* be lightly esteemed, our scholastic or medical character is not likely to stand high in public regard. We never yet met with a man who felt satisfied with a status easily and cheaply obtained that was worthy of even his wretched distinction. Upon such grounds we rest our defence as far as feelings of pride, self-respect and affection have prompted it. We would *not be the alumnus* of a “college” unknown east of the Delaware or west of the Schuylkill, resting all its dignities upon the glory of *one advertising “professor ;”* even if such a college existed more than in name—still less do we feel inclined to be degraded by such rivalry.

Our next reason was one of *private and personal interest*—And though not in our own eyes one of the highest, still there are many whom no other can reach,—many who will much more clearly comprehend a syllogism whose conclusion brings to light a “*double eagle*,” as a tangible object of personal loss or gain, than all we have said or could say about college prizes or college honors; which to them are all “stale, flat and unprofitable.” We will, therefore,

turn financier for a moment. We can easily prove that our own degree at that college cost us no less than *thirteen hundred dollars*,—viz, two engagements, during two of our terms were dispensed with, which were worth five hundred dollars each, our tickets of admission, &c., cost two hundred dollars, and graduating, and other college-fees made more, even, than another hundred; and we incurred neither “debt to the college” nor charitable obligations to its faculty, but “*paid as we went on*,”—and this is more than some of those who have arrayed themselves in the German ranks as its enemies can say. There is not a student, who comes to this college from a distant part, and after the usual term returns home with his diploma, that does not find his own or his parent’s purse, at least, more than one thousand dollars less; and this is the estimate of a close economist. Many spend double that sum.

Why this large expenditure of time and money? for a few courses of lectures upon the different branches of medical science? There is not a single branch of the theory or practice embraced by these lectures, except practical anatomy, upon which the student cannot find a treatise giving the subject in better language, and more exact and elaborate detail, than any professor in this good city can lay claim to. And by this strong language we mean neither to deny to the able men of both schools—the old and the new—the praise of great talents, extensive and sound knowledge, most valuable practical skill and experience, purely their own;—we are eye-witnesses to so large and varied a range of such qualities, that it would be the greatest injustice not to make this qualification:—yet the men who wrote our standard text-books *were* greater than the men whose lectures we have heard, taking their talents and acquirements as a whole. Now, a student can sit in his own room at his own home, and from authors equally competent, at least, read more than he can hear at any course of lectures; why then, we repeat, come away from home at so great a loss of time and money? Simply to *secure a status*, which law, decency and public opinion demand; which is the only security to the community that he is what he styles himself—a doctor, and the only true mark of distinction between a physician, and an impostor and a quack! And no man has ever yet “hung out his shingle,” as “Doctor,” without a college diploma, fairly obtained, that has not been *guilty of fraud and falsehood*. Our time and our money, then, are invested in our college degree,

and the value of that degree rises or sinks, like scrip in the railroad mart, with the rise and fall of the college which issued it. Let no man dare to tell us, that we have not as clear a right to defend this literary or professional investment, as he has to defend his money-bags, or strong box from a set of burglars—though we use but a goose-quill, while he would avail himself of rifle and dagger.

It is easy for a couple of gentlemen,—one of whom, if report speaks truth, for which of course we are not responsible—professes openly never to have paid anything for his own medical education; and the other who is said never to have complied with the requirements of any college, never to have attended any lectures, hospitals or other places of public medical instruction, and never to have received, in the *regular manner*, the legal warrant of any college,—to rise up and, by various means and specious arguments, create a faction to aid them in establishing what they call a “free college,” for the purpose of draining the resources, and lessening the credit of one in which they cannot bear the chief rule! Because, forsooth, we and the public cannot swallow the dogma so industriously circulated that *none but Germans* can practice Homœopathy with necessary accuracy! We shall next hear that none but Galileans have any claim to profess or teach Christianity!—or be told that we must set out upon a mission to the East to discover the tomb, exhume the remains and, Prometheus-like, vitalize the clay of Æsculapius, before we can hope to obtain an accurate knowledge of the healing art.—Away with such a fraud on the public, away with such intrigue, away with such humbug!—Our right has been invaded and our property threatened!—let no man, who has honesty enough to understand our motives, and learning enough to comprehend our arguments presume to *talk*; or if he has anything to say, let him “put it in writing,” that we may see “*how much it is worth.*” We defend our college for ourselves as individuals, for our fellow graduates at home and abroad; and for these UNITED STATES we defend this first temple dedicated to our art, that it may stand to the end of time as the first nursery of Homœopathy, improving in character, and growing in reputation, till its name shall become a pledge for extensive knowledge and scientific acquirements throughout every part of the civilized world! Yes, we have been severe and pointed, but there is not a shaft we have aimed, if we could recall it, that we would not give its point another touch. We hope our friends and

the true friends of our cause are all satisfied;—as we have abundant proof to establish the fact that every scratch our pen has made has left its mark upon the surface it passed over! This we shall show anon. And if those who have found that our strictures were “*intended for them*,” by publicly appropriating them, will, by any overt act that may appear to have the same, or a similar object in view, call us into action again, we can assure them that, having then *palpable objects* instead of figurative ones, before us, we will bring down upon their backs, already somewhat sore, such a shower of well directed touches of the literary cat-o’-nine-tails that they will be but too glad to sue for mercy and retire from the toilsome labor “of college building.”—They will excuse the boast, upon the strength of what we have already done,—and there is many a tender place we have not touched! Our Pegasus has only felt the first tickle of the roller, and we cannot ourselves accurately calculate his speed or his mettle when his flanks are smarting from repeated touches of both spurs.

We stated that we saw no answer in any public print, to our review, yet we must admit receiving a “*private note*” in reply, which we shall, by and by, lay before the reader; but there are local and historical facts associated with it that must take precedence;—and we think that by becoming ourselves the faithful chroniclers of this matter, it will appear all the plainer to our friends that on our part there is no want of due appreciation.

In this city there is, or rather there *was*, an institution known as “The American Provers’ Union,”—but more recently styled, from the nature and character of its most prominent acts, “THE DUTCH INQUISITION.” Its sole and only object at first was “the work of proving medicines on the healthy,” its constitution provided for nothing else, its by-laws gave it no further stretch of power. We were elected, even without soliciting the honor, some time ago to the membership of the society, and more recently appointed by a unanimous vote to the office of “Corresponding Secretary for Great Britain,” on behalf of the body. Being regularly at the meetings we noticed the attendance had become small by degrees and beautifully less, until it could “prove” nothing, because there was no one left to prove anything; perhaps this might have been occasioned by the fact that its late “provings” proved only that little could be proved, and that less would credit what was said to have been “proved”—but,

be that as it may, those members of the profession who occupied any standing were generally absent.

No sooner did our review of the "News" appear, than certain persons became openly furious, and ran, or drove, about, morning, noon and night, from the house of one member to that of another, exclaiming that every word of the article was written against them, and that it could not possibly mean any one else, because it could fit no one else, and that it was a *most flagrant violation of the rules of the Union*, for one who had been so lately added to the ranks, (we have practised and studied Homœopathy since 1843, but "*without money or price*") "a mere tyro," to write so, *ungentlemanly*, an article against one who had been *in practice fourteen years!* and that the writer deserved to be forthwith expelled the Union:—and that the Union *ought*, and *should*, and *must*, protect Dr. Adolphus Lippe, for whom the article was claimed, from all who dared to write a word against him, or challenge anything he chose to write against other persons, or deny the very highest degree of literary merit to whatever he did write, *or caused any one to write in his name!* And so it was arranged between various members at the houses of some of the heads of the party, that J. F. Geary, M. D., "should be expelled from the American Provers' Union, for writing an 'ungentlemanly' article against Dr. A. Lippe." In proof of this, we give an extract from a letter addressed to us by D. Cowley, M. D., the Secretary of the Society. The doctor says in this letter, dated August the 15th, 1855:—"On last Wednesday evening, the 8th," (the evening before the meeting of the Union) "*I saw Drs. Hering and Lippe at Dr. Hering's house. Dr. H. told me that Dr. Coxe and Dr. Dubs had said, you ought to be expelled from the Union for publishing such an article, and he wished to know of me what I thought about it.*" We were credibly assured by Dr. Dubs, at whose house the meeting was held, that Dr. Hering's carriage brought to his door three gentlemen at seven o'clock,—an hour before the time fixed for the meeting,—who talked the *modus operandi* of our expulsion over between themselves and the others who joined them. A short time after eight o'clock, the Secretary called at our office, returned a volume we had lent him, and expressed some anxiety *as to whether we intended to attend the meeting*; without, however, giving us any intimation of the action which *he well knew* was about to be taken concerning us, or com-

municating a message sent us by Dr. Dubs, to the effect "that he desired we should be present, as he did not think it quite fair that we *should receive a stab in the dark* in his house." We quote his own words. At a convenient time, we made our appearance as usual, but in the course of the evening's proceedings saw a member stand up, who, in bitter and angry invectives, and in no courteous or measured phrase, denounced us as anything but what we should like to be considered, and what,—without desiring to arrogate too much,—till then we never heard disputed. We protested, expostulated, appealed to the constitution, offered our resignation, but all to no purpose. We were talked down,—our resignation refused by the learned Secretary, because "*it was not in writing.*" We offered to put it in writing, but this also was refused. We found no adherents; the room was packed with twelve faithful retainers of the much injured A. L.—no, only *eleven—he made the twelfth himself*—for this star-chamber proceeding. We felt injured, insulted, our rights invaded, justice, or even fair play, denied us. We became excited, loud and angry, denounced them as no Provers' Union, but an inquisition, snapped our fingers, and told them we "did not care *that* for them or their expulsion;" and prepared to leave the room, but being stopped at the door by Drs. Dubs and Neidhard, who professed being no parties to the action then going on—though in the case of the former it is not easy to reconcile his statement with Dr. Cowley's letter—urged to remain and "defend ourselves." After replying that there was no charge, and therefore no defence required, we yielded, and took our seat,—when, in a moment, another individual, named Dr. Reichhelm, stood up, and with energy in his action and fire in his eyes; enough to frighten a *coward* at least,—declared "that all he knew about the matter was, that if he had been Dr. Lippe, and Dr. Geary had written such an article against him, Dr. Geary *should not sit there and live!*" At this bumbastus furioso, we merely laughed, and asked, "*now, what would you do?*" But perceiving that there was no "call to order" by the chair, nor a word of disapprobation from the meeting, we rose, saying, that we "*felt it was now time to go*"—and according to Dr. Murphy's express words, heard from his lips at his own house, an hour, or thereabouts, after the meeting, the vote for our expulsion "passed without a dissenting voice, before we had time to get out at the front door, as they seemed tired of the matter." Then we

said, if not in so many words, "hail, hail, American liberty, hail American freedom of the press, and the voice under the rule of Judge Lynch, presiding over a jury of German doctors!" And so we went home, angry with ourselves for being ruffled even for a moment at what should have afforded only material for merriment. In due course, we received the following note, which speaks for itself.

"*Philada., August 11, 1855.*"

"Dr. J. F. GEARY,

"SIR—It becomes my very unpleasant duty, as Secretary of the American Provers' Union, to inform you, that at the last meeting of that Society, held Aug. 9th, ult., at Dr. S. R. Dubs', you were, by a unanimous vote, expelled from the Society, according to the following motion:

"'Moved, that on account of the ungentlemanly character of an article, entitled "The Homœopathic News, its critiques and its college reviewed," written by Dr. J. F. Geary, and published in the Philadelphia Journal of Homœopathy, he, Dr. J. F. Geary, be forthwith expelled from the Provers' Union.'"

"D. COWLEY, M. D.,

Recording Secretary

of the Am. Provers' Union.

No. 100 S. 9th St. Philada."

We give the names of the parties to this action, lest History should hereafter weep that oblivion had covered men so worthy to live in her pages—they are, Drs. Lippe, Reichhelm, Negendanck, Neidhard, Compton, Murphy, Coxe, Dubs, Cowley, Vinal, Zumbrock and another. Such, then, are the facts, and such the men, that have identified our personified initials "A. L." with Adolphus Lippe; and they only are responsible for his full recognition as the renowned, though unenviable, "hero of the first hundred mistakes!" A specification to which we have not the slightest objection, since it is pleasant to feel that we were fighting with something more than a mere shadow. Such, too, is the only reply that has yet made its appearance to the review. It is worthy of remark, that the only charge in the official document against it is, that it is "an *ungentlemanly* article;" which charge we hardly think, quite fair; as it is rather unusual for articles sprung from such sources as breed only

vulgarity and impertinence, to speak in such tones and accents as would seem, indeed, to indicate some scholastic and even collegiate breeding, a slight touch of originality here and there, with a spirit that does not speak it quite a coward—some sense of justice, and a desire to defend the *weak* against the oppression of the *strong*;—all which we have been led, from our earliest days, to believe to *be gentlemanly attributes*;—but of old delusions and superstitions there is no end, and the new world and its new usages, manners and habits, are “far ahead” of such “old fogies” as we are. It is somewhat strange that the only mark which would really have stamped the low breeding of the review has not been discovered in it, that is, *falsehood*! From all this it would seem, that Dr. Lippe’s sympathizers and friends have very poor heads for diplomacy, or a very strong taste for waggery and innocent, roguish, practical jokes; in which they indulged, at his expense, by thus fastening upon him a very damaging criticism, bearing all the marks of literary acquirements—we need not boast—and telling him it is “*ungentlemanly*!” It looks so like the common trick of hackney coachmen, who, when their exorbitant demands are opposed upon legal grounds by their “fare,” put their fingers to their nose and cry, “*ah, you aint no gemmon!*”—that we can hardly believe they had any other object in view than that of completing the work of his literary destruction! They rush out, like a posse of sheriff’s officers, and surround him, while their leader, with that “*writ of error*,” the review, in the left hand, and the right holds the victim in its gripe, shouts at the top of his voice, “*there is the copy, and here is the original!*” But, be this as it may, we shall still treat their action in relation to ourselves, as seriously intended to be an effectual answer to a review which they vaguely imagined meant something terrible, but which they could not exactly comprehend, (for who that has any acquaintance with them and does not know that the united erudition of the whole party is not sufficient to enable them to understand the very first page of it?) or at least an ample revenge on the author, for inventing, or rather using, a new mode of warfare, for which they had never learned so much tactics as to be able to form a line of defence. And so, being wanting in knowledge, pluck and bravery, sneak away from the open field, into which they were manfully invited, take refuge under cover of the “Provers’ Union” as an ambuscade from which they, *like braves*, or rather Indian fashion, may rush

upon a single antagonist, unarmed and unsuspecting ! But there were those, whose names stood on the roll-book of the Union, who, on learning the nature of the act to which they were made parties in their absence, and without their knowledge, did not at all feel satisfied to stamp with the seal of their authority and sanction this unexampled "proving." And so we find, that on the night of the 20th of September last, at the meeting held at Dr. Hering's house, the following medical gentlemen voted for the "reconsideration and an annulling" of that part of the action of the previous meeting which related to the expulsion of Dr. Geary—Richard Gardiner, M. D., James Kitchen, M. D., Walter Williamson, M. D., Emeritus Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Homœopathic College of Pennsylvania, Alvan E. Small, M. D., Professor of Pathology and the Practice of Medicine, H. M. C. of Penna., William A. Reed, M. D., Professor of Physiology and Medical Jurisprudence, H. M. C. of Penna., William A. Gardiner, M. D., Professor of Anatomy, H. M. C. of Penna., Wm. Stiles, M. D., Thomas Moore, M. D., W. T. Helmuth, M. D., J. G. Houard, M. D., A. H. Ashton, M. D., J. M. McAllister, M. D., J. F. Sheek, M. D., and J. R. Earhart, M. D. It appears, however, that they were out-voted by a majority of *one* ;—for it seems, that in anticipation of the movement of the evening, the head and neck of the expelling body had secured additions to their *tail* from distant cities—Philadelphia not being able to furnish material *small enough* for the lower joints of this caudal appendage. But these gentlemen, seeing that the Provers' Union had now become debased by intrigue, and stained with cowardice,—the vulgar and pliable drudge of despotic demagogues,—had no alternative left but to resign their connexion, and order their names to be struck from the roll-book. The following medical gentlemen have for the same cause, also retired from the Union—Charles C. Cresson, M. D., J. R. Andrews, M. D., and D. James, M. D.

It would be quite out of place here to contrast the *well known literary and professional standing* of those who did us the honor to expel us from their midst, with the general character and reputation of the gentlemen who *expelled themselves* in order to share our fate. Indeed, the contrast may prove anything but favorable ;—and as it would be really a "personal" matter, we will leave it to our medical brethren everywhere, and to the community generally, to con-

strue our sentence of exile, in such company, as they may feel disposed; either as a mark of disgrace, or high and special distinction. It will, however, be apparent to them, that we are in remarkably good spirits, and that we bear our misfortunes with becoming courage and dignity;—and we beg to assure them that we have not the most remote intention of sending a white flag to the enemies' camp, nor of lowering, even to half-mast, that we display *monthly*—which, like that of our adopted country, has borne “stars and stripes,”—though in this instance, they convey a *new* symbolic meaning. To use the colloquial style of the men who have made it glorious on land and sea—they indicate the *things* we “have made” our antagonists “*see*” and “*feel*.” We will now make our banner perfect by assuming a *two-fold* motto. One has never lowered before an enemy but *once*, and that time it was only to yield to the power that has adopted the other,—“NO SURRENDER!”—THE REVIEWER “NEVER SURRENDERS!” We intertwine them in a laurel wreath, and become invincible! Month after month, and year after year, shall this streamer be flung to the breeze, till one pure, *national*, and *universal Homœopathy* shall have unlimited sway, and the HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA become its grand national exponent!

But we pass on to the more immediate object of this paper; our introduction having already extended beyond its intended limits.

The benefits of the review have been claimed for, and adopted by Drs. Lippe and Hering; and it is a matter of some satisfaction that they have at last been forced from the shelter of the underwood by which indeed, they had been but partially concealed;—however, we were bred in early life in a “great fox-hunting country,” and were rather fond of the sport. To this discovery and adoption we have no objection, since they and their friends will have it so; and for the sake of argument we will accept the hypothesis—upon which we will found two propositions, viz.:—First, that if the review contained the “*personal abuse*”—*which it does not*—with which they charge it, they, especially Dr. Lippe, cannot with a good grace, complain of it.

And second, that if the review *does* deny literary and scientific acquirements to Dr. Lippe, as they say it does, the review is perfectly justified, because *it can, and shall be proved, that he has no claims to either the one or the other*; judging from what has appeared before the public in his name.

Not only do these twelve honorable and learned men, who constituted the inquisitorial tribunal upon American freedom of the press, declare most emphatically that it is personally abusive to their protegee, but one of them—their chief classic—who *did such wonders in his "school-boy days,"* among Greek and Latin authors, and has become so deeply imbued with their riches that he can neither speak nor write fifty consecutive words of his mother tongue with tolerable decency—finds out, and *proves* too, that Lippe is Judas Iscariot, Cataline, and some others equally good and great! that *twelve* lawyers—all "*Philadelphia lawyers*" too—and any number of clergymen of all denominations, pronounce it a—what do you think?—why, a LIBEL, to be sure!

Now, we should be very glad if any or all of these "learned men" would show us one single word that abuses anything about, or in, or around "A. L." except the silly literary character in which he tries to swagger, like a tragedy king in rags and tatters. And if these "*scholars*," who "*astonished the natives*" as youthful prodigies, could only apply to the interpretation of the review, a small portion of the vast stores laid up in safe keeping somewhere—lest their "*much learning should make them mad*," perhaps—for highdays and holidays, they would not be so likely to mistake figurative language, classical allusions and statements bearing upon medical and general literature, for "*personal abuse*" and "*libel*."—But the true cause of all this nonsense and folly which they talked, and which has placed them in such a ridiculous position before the profession, is what we have already stated, they are fairly out of their depth, lost in a maze, out of which they want to grope their way, but the faster they run, the more they become entangled. And who can blame them? If the degree of scholarship which only secures to men of good and sound minds a knowledge of general literature and science, be the work of a life, what wonder is it that these men should be bewildered and confounded, when they try to puzzle through such articles as only men of learning can fully appreciate and comprehend in their full bearing.—Let them now take one word of advice at our hands, it is not ours, it is the moral of a story that has made many a man "*look simple*."

"Don't meddle with matters you don't understand.

Don't make use of language that isn't well scanned."

But we are curious to know the *names* of their *jury* of "twelve lawyers;" by keeping these back they do them great injustice, for if the public only knew who had discovered such a "mare's nest," as a libel in the Review, they would be quite run down with clients, as doubtless *all* their patrons, the doctors, are with patients. Lawyers in general being rather slippery subjects, "*one* is about *as many*" as each private gentleman likes to take in *hand*; and the sound, well-digested opinion of one generally serves his purpose, even in knotty points.—But this reminds us of Robin Hood celebrating marriage, when

"He called them *seven* times in the church, lest *three* times should not do!"

Now we had but *one* lawyer's opinion, and we will give it to them without a fee,—they will then have the full baker's dozen—it is to the effect that ten thousand doctors and *their* ten thousand lawyers—granting them to have "*one apiece*" like the *twelve apostles* of the Provers' union, *cannot find a libel* in it—for this simple reason—"ex nihilo nihil fit!"—used in a *legal* sense, of course, for there is plenty of other stuff in the same "ungentlemanly" review.—Ah, what an omission they have made—the doctors I mean—not the lawyers—that they did not insert the word "*libellous*" in *that polite note* they favoured us with—well, they are but daubs at the business, after all. And so we will take our leave of them, with the full satisfaction that they have *now* "made themselves very well known;" and that it will be no easy matter for them, for the future, to attempt to live in seclusion or retirement amid the daily honors that must be heaped upon them by their grateful and admiring fellow laborers! For ourselves, we will only say what we *thought* and *think*, *then* and *now*.—

"It vexes me—for I would fain
Have paid their insult back again.
I paid it well in after days!—"

And now we come to the second part of our proposition, which is that Dr. Lippe is the last man that should complain of "personalities" in a review, inasmuch as no man should object to "payment in kind,"—and that the Doctor complains with a very bad grace, we will now prove by reviews which bear his name, and must therefore be taken as his.—For even though he may tell us that he only

desired Jones or Smith, who lived by scribbling, for any one who could not scribble for himself—to write them, still this does not alter the condition of things, since it is a just and a legal maxim—"that thou doest by another thou doest by thyself,"—we say then they are Dr. Lippe's contribution to our literature.

Some of these articles appeared in this Journal, others in the *late unfortunate* "News."

The first we shall notice, will be found in No. 9, vol. I., of this publication. It displays as much *prowess* as it does *courtesy* and *learning*, for it is *anonymous*—though subsequently the Doctor, under a considerable degree of high pressure, "owns up like a man," and takes the foundling to his bosom.—The first sentence runs thus, "*congratulating the homœopathic physicians on the appearance of a much needed complete repertory, the result of four years' steady labor of Charles J. Hempel, M. D.*" Who does not see, in this wonderfully constructed sentence, a feeble attempt at personal sarcasm, implying that the author under review is only a blockhead, who spends four long years at steady and hard labor and produces nothing, or only trash! and then a few lines farther on we have—"The first two pages '*To the Reader,*' seemed rather short;—a vast deal of modesty and presumption on two pages," Here we have an insolent charge against Hempel as being a presumptuous fellow, screening himself under a show of modesty. Then the reviewer quotes a short chapter, which he finds so wrong, defective and worthless, that the hardest use to which paper and ink may be put is too good for it: and with characteristic modesty supplies its place thus,—"*I give a chapter from memory such as I should expect to find in a complete book!*" This, of course, is intended to show, how vastly superior a book Lippe could "make" from the mere storehouse of his memory, than Hempel can with all the riches of the profession spread before him, from which to select and compile! From all which it follows that Lippe is a *great* man, and Hempel is only a goose—*quod erat demonstrandum*.—Again we have, "*In order to be convinced of the utter falsity of this complete repertory.*" Reader, what does this mean? does it not mean that Dr. Hempel gives to the public as *true*, what he knows to be *false*? And pray, then by what term does Lippe desire you should designate him? There is only *one*, and you know it, but we trust don't often apply it, even to the meanest of your fellow beings! "*Here it is in place*

to make a few remarks on the fabrication of books, and the perversion of sense arising from such fabrications." "This is a perfect perversion of the sense." What is "a perversion of sense, or language? Is it not a known and wilful misdirection and misinterpretation of the known and simple truth of the matter set down before us or spoken in our hearing? Here indeed is a sweeping accusation made by Dr. Lippe against Dr. Hempel; if true, it places the latter in no enviable position before the profession, but if false, the head and heart of him who makes it, deserve our pity,—if he does not possess the ordinary share of moral sense,—and if he does, our scorn. We know not Hempel, we have never spoken with him, therefore, let others judge between the parties. But we grow sick of this tiresome detail, so we must give them in bulk and estimate them in the lump. Page 430, vol. 1.—"but Dr. Hempel perverts the symptom completely"—"but to show the kind reader how careless this complete repertory has been fabricated, I shall give what might be considered a complete chapter on this subject."—Ohe modestia!—page 518, vol. 1.—"it is written in a style unbecoming a gentleman; I shall never condescend to the use of such language, and leave him the honor of superiority in vulgarism." "If they are as utterly false as I have found them to be." "I have no personal interest; I am not engaged in the fabrication of repertories; I do not live by it, nor do I intend to." (Note—This statement is dated January 28, 1853, and "*The Key to the Materia Medica*,"—with that other long name—"by Ad. Lippe, M. D.," appeared in 1854—the preface to which is dated Oct. 11th, 1853, just eight months after the denial made above! But some authors plan, write and publish with wonderful velocity!) Page 519.—"Jahr never had audacity enough to profess that it was complete, the fabrication under review professes to be the repertory, to be the complete"—"this monster of a complete repertory"—"I advise him first to learn something of our materia medica, before he writes such nonsense." Page 580.—"I looked for an ovarian chapter in that complete fabrication"—"that fabrication was hurled into existence"—"and he had some experience; so have we; so has not the editor of the book." Vol. 2, page 59.—"My audacity to review the last fabrication"—"The author in his first reply gained for himself an acknowledgment of his superiority in vulgarisms." Page 60.—"Whenever the profession is again insulted by said author, insulted

in the shape of a *fabrication*, such *fabrication* will be reviewed"—
 "Does all the *raving* of the author bring that ovarian chapter into the complete repertory"—"which every homœopathic practitioner does know, *save our book-maker*." Page 61.—"The translation is full of omissions of whole sentences, *full of WILFUL perversions*"—"a profession indignant because *grievously insulted*, tired of miserable fabrications"—"The profession will have better books, and I am happy to be able to inform them that ere long they will have them."—*in eight months* !—

Here, surely, gentle reader, is a dish fit to coax the appetite of Her described by the Roman poet,

"Monstrum horrendum, ingens : cui quot sunt corpore plumæ.
 Tot vigiles oculi subter (mirabile dictu),
 Tot linguæ, totidem ora sonant, tot subrigit aures."—VIRGIL.

Upon such a feast of vituperation and insulting epithets, Virgil's personification of scandal might glut till she had gorged, and indeed invite the Furies to the remains of her banquet ! And all these, and twice as many more we have passed by, are to be found within the compass of *nine pages* of this periodical ! Now, if this is not laying it on thick," we do not know what is. Let us now turn to the "Homœopathic News," where the doctor is quite at home. But as we are almost tired, as doubtless our readers are, we will content ourselves with one instance which will sufficiently prove that whatever passes through the doctor's hands cannot escape pollution. Under the head, "*Queries and Queer Answers*," in the *fifth* number of the "News,"—which, by the way, was its *antipenultimate* number ; the poor little thing died of extreme debility of constitution at the end of the *sixth month*, in spite of the *life insurance* spoken of in the second number, "*already secured by deposits and contracts*,"—Dr. A. E. Small is drawn into a web-work of symptoms, by a simple question, *modestly* "*put for the sake of obtaining information*," which enables Dr. Lippe to "*lick*" him in his usual style, and show how vastly superior are his own attainments to Dr. Small's, and how much more astute his discernment is in those nice symptomal distinctions, which *mean nothing*,—and would most probably be overlooked by any one whose knowledge extended beyond a mere string of doubtful indications, large numbers of which are but worthless lumber, as useless and deceptive as they are ponderous and imprac-

licable in application. But let Dr. Lippe speak for himself—"instead of receiving only the expected confirmations, however, we are astonished by the learned professor's display of rare curiosities, both in pathology and therapeutics; and we have so much the more to congratulate ourselves on our having thus induced him to favor the profession at large with those valuable lucubrations, which would otherwise have been communicated solely to his favored class of students." "Profession-at-large," won't you erect a statue,—but, mind, it must not be of mud—to the doctor, and take care you do not laugh when you crown it, for this singular service! Why, profession-at-large, the writer was *only last year* one of "that favored class of students" whom the *learned* doctor congratulates upon the learning of their master; and you see, taking every thing into the account, we can write a very tolerable "exercise," and we trust the doctor will "congratulate" us,—as he is "great at that business."—"to which all writers agree, save Dr. Small in his valuable *Manual of Domestic Homœopathic Practice*." "Next in order is a very curious case of *nux vomica* fever: a curiosity so great, that we must beg leave to defer our observations upon it till our next number."—News, page 38. We follow it on to "our next number," at page 44—"our informant adds, to this unique and remarkably rare symptom 'then heat.' We should have been much pleased to learn the time of the day, something about the thirst (for heat),"—then we are charitably informed that Dr. Small stole every word of these symptoms, &c., so nicely dissected by Dr. L., from Bœnninghausen,—after which he goes on to say, in that *keen* and *killing* sarcastic vein in which he seems to think all his strength lies,—"*Never too old, and always anxious to learn, we now find these corroborations of unique symptoms followed by something new. * * * This weighty evidence of our informant to the contrary notwithstanding, we should, in such fever paroxysms as are here related to have been seemingly benefitted, consider eupatorium as most homœopathically indicated; and should consider arnica, capsicum, nux vomica or pulsatilla as next.*" Now, "profession-at-large," see how great Dr. L. is! and how kindly he manages to give the benefit of his practical experience at the sick bed in contrast only with the "blunders" of a brother physician whom he desires to lessen in your estimation in proportion as he attempts to raise himself by making a very footstool of Dr. Small's literary and medical reputation, as well as

of his "*favoured class of students.*" "Profession-at-large," don't you see in all this, the rival Philadelphia doctor, the rival "advertising" professor and candidate for *another* "favoured class of students," "*as one of the lecturers attached to the Independent Medical School of Pennsylvania?*" Do you not in all this see the vulgar tricks of that class of men who, in every trade, business and profession, endeavor to establish an undeserved reputation by slanderous depreciation of those who, by their learning, merit and high principles, soar infinitely above them? of those who, by mean insinuations and petty gossipings, try to lower others to their own standard? Are these the men who complain of "*personalities?*" are these they who foam and rage at sight of a criticism so much above them that they have completed their own literary disgrace by making it apparent to all who heard them speak of it, that they were fairly puzzled to find out its meaning? An article that was written for the sole and only purpose of exposing the authors of the miserable tirades we have here quoted;—from whose slanders neither the reputation of professor nor student was safe,—and defending our alma mater from their open attacks, and still worse, their secret intrigues. Now, "*let the galled jade wince!*" Here is a man who can find no epithet too bad or too strong when he attributes fraud, falsehood and incompetency to others, who unblushingly gives us a case of intermittent fever he takes under treatment, "on the 27th of February, 1855," to which he administers "Belladonna, 2000, one dose; the *next* day, the attack is slightly lessened, no medicine; the *following* day, the attack scarcely perceptible. Entire cessation of the attack *afterwards!*!" And the paper, the "News," in which this *cure* appears, was published on the 28th of Feb., 1855! Here, then, you find the 27th, the first day of treatment, the *next* day, the 28th, of course, on which *the paper appeared*, when there was amelioration of the attack; the *following* day, the 29th, the day *after* the publication of the news, when the "attack was imperceptible," and the "*afterwards,*" *some portion of March*, or to Christmas, if you please, when "*there was an entire cessation!*!" Why, "profession-at-large," can you tell us how the great cleaner-out of our Augean stable has managed to "take Time thus by the forelock!" We "*congratulate*" you upon this cure with "Belladonna, 2000!!"

The remainder of Small's "using up," will "be continued," we are told:—but as that cross-grained, squalling, little bantling, the

"News," departed this life on the 28th of February, 1855,—a day memorable in the annals of Belladonna, 2000, and clinical record, born before their time, we must look out for it sometime after the general resurrection ; unless indeed

" That first, on earth as vampire sent,
Its corse shall from the tomb be rent ;
Then ghastly haunt its native place,
And suck the blood of all its race.—"

In danger of so fearful a visitant from the world of spirits, we shall breathe a prayer, that cannot displease the chief mourner, as a devout Roman Catholic—

" REQUIESCAT IN PACE !"

Our second proposition is to the effect, that judging from the productions bearing Dr. Lippe's name, he has no claim to literary merit,—nor, indeed, does he seem to be acquainted with the common technicalities of the profession of which he claims to be a member. The demonstration needs not detain ourselves, or the reader, very long. But first, we must premise that Dr. Lippe has boldly and publicly challenged this scrutiny, by putting himself forward as a *contributor* to our periodicals, a *critic* on our text books, an editor, or an "author," of *that* "*Key to the Materia Medica*," and as a professor in a medical "college,"—and surely

"Of occupations these are *quantum suff.*"

Nor indeed would we be justified in denying the truth contained in the two lines that follow the one we have quoted.—

" Yet, still, he thought the list not long enough ;
And, therefore, *Midwifery* he chose to pin to't."

This duty is the more imperative from the fact, that on the morning of Saturday, the 16th of June, last, the doctor *very* kindly turned over to us, without a word of apology, explanation, or caution—merely giving our address to the messenger,—a case of obstetrics (of which he had made a careful examination about half an hour before we saw it,) which presented the following complications, viz:—prolapsus of the cord, which had no pulsation in it as far as our touch could ascertain, a hand and shoulder presentation, a highly nervous and hysterical condition of the patient, together with ex-

treme weakness. Having by careful examination ascertained these conditions and not having received any note or verbal message from the owner of the case, we felt it our duty to write a brief note as to the probability of its being rather difficult and tedious, and declining its responsibility. In the course of a conversation with the Doctor, the same evening, he was pleased to be highly indignant because we did not take the thing as a mark of high favor and *intended kindness*; and twitted us with a cowardly desertion of a case he could himself "*have delivered in fifteen minutes if he had had time.*" And because we took exception to this language and expressed some doubts, as to whether it was handed over to us from such goodness of heart and simplicity of motive, the Doctor thought fit to offer us the grossest insult we had received in our whole life—for which, to do him justice, he begged our pardon, before the members of the Provers' Union, at the meeting held on the 19th of July. It is only fair also to state that the Doctor left the case unattended, and unprovided for; and that after long, and very severe suffering, the woman, having a narrow escape, was delivered, by the aid of instruments, of a *stillborn* child. But this is a digression, for which, however, the reader must blame the association of ideas from Coleman's "Newcastle Apothecary."—The first specimen upon which we can lay our hands just now, will be found in the 1st vol. of this Journal, page 157, where he publishes, as a kind of *rara avis in terra*, a case of abscess of the brain, which he could not cure, because it *was incurable*, and gives us clearly to understand that if a cure were within the bounds of possibility, it could not resist his treatment. He lays it down there as a fixed fact, which is made the more immovable by his own experience, that homœopathy can cure everything that is *not* impossible to be cured! and that from this fact it follows by the clearest reasoning, that all the cases it cannot cure are the *negative*, and all the cases it can the *positive*, proofs of the truth of the doctrine. But, alas for poor homœopathy if this is its best, or indeed, any argument for, or against, its truth. It is what logicians would call "a fallacy arising from ignorance;" an argument that *proves too much*, and therefore proves nothing. For nature, unaided by medicine, cures everything that is not impossible for her to cure, and, therefore, nature unaided is the only true mode of treatment! No scholar, whose education has been properly conducted in any language, or who has helped himself

to a sound and liberal course of reading, could stumble into this nonsense; but Hobbes very well observes that "words are the counters of wise men but the money of fools."

It is not an unreasonable requirement that, when any one attempts to compose and publish in any language, he should be familiar at least, with its simple elements; nor is it any excuse that it is not his mother tongue; for this makes the thing presumptuous on his own part, and an insult to the public, whose taste and intelligence he underrates. If his thoughts are profound, and his knowledge extensive, a good translation will do them justice—do justice to the people, and place himself in his proper position. It is, therefore, unwise, and somewhat suspicious, to have recourse to the too common trick of screening one's ignorance under pretence of having no words to express his thoughts. It is another mode of playing the "artful dodge." If a German or French *scholar, philosopher and thinker*, with his mind fully developed, and his knowledge deep and accurate, has lived *eighteen or twenty years* in this country, speaking, reading and writing our language all that time and on all occasions, cannot, after all, put together decently a few sentences, and express himself in conversation with tolerable accuracy and clearness, it is to us *prima facie* evidence that he has neither genius nor learning. It is contrary to what we know of the human mind, and of real scholars placed in the same circumstances;—but what is always true of tailors, shoemakers and day-laborers, who try too often to pass for *scholars and gentlemen* among persons who are but slightly acquainted with the habits of foreign lands, and not at all with *their languages*. Why, any man with a "good head," could harangue a Greek or Roman assembly, or edit one of their "journals," in a shorter period of residence among them than twenty years! Let us but glance over Dr. Lippe's "works," and we appeal to any one who is acquainted with the rudest elements of the English tongue, if it is not next to impossible to find a tolerably constructed clause or sentence in anything he has written. And as to *thought* there is *none*. The first sentence of his onslaught upon Hempel, is *without a verb*, and therefore, means nothing, it begins with a participle, which, every one knows to be "*connective*," but still connects nothing; it is what grammarians call "a cripple."

It seems only mere trifling to attempt to select from what is *all trash*; think of such phrases as "*a different meaning of the version*"

Dr. Hempel gives it—"having presented before us"—"*fluid becomes absorbed*"—"every book is liable to review"—"*is there any other remedies given for warts*" (*remedies is given ! !*)—"I am adding one small query which I might do *ad infinitum* regarding that book." We supposed the learned doctor was a good "*Latin scholar*," but it seems he does not know the difference between *ad infinitum* and *ad eternum*, which only could be correctly used here,—but perhaps his want of acquaintance with English prevents his knowing the force even of two words of Latin, known to every mechanic in the city. "The patient did not *stay cured* any time at all!"—"to which all writers agree." But what does it avail that we should pursue such trifling and childish detail, or sit in judgment upon collocations so rude and ill arranged that the children in our charity schools would be whipped for exercises so ill written! We must not be understood as finding fault with Dr. Lippe or any other man for being ignorant of our language, or in fact of anything else; ignorance is a misfortune, not a crime; but we find fault with Dr. Lippe for being *presumptuous*, for setting himself up as dictator and judge in matters for which he has not passed his term of pupilage! This folly must end; if Dr. Lippe is an accomplished German, French or *Latin, scholar*, let his original compositions in either language, or in all,—well and correctly translated,—prove this, and we shall be the first to praise him. But since it is not every one bred in England or America who can speak correct English, or set himself up as an English scholar, we may be permitted to think that it is not every one who speaks German or French, is a German, or French scholar. Is the French or German *farmer* or *mechanic*, in language, diction, thought and accent, *just like* the French or German *thoroughbred scholar, gentleman* or *professional man*? Who can tell us? Dr. Lippe can soon *prove by his pen*, what *his real* position is in the "world of letters." And as we have abundant evidence that in eighteen or twenty years' intercourse and reading, Dr. L. has not learned how to speak or write a few sentences of English correctly, we must be allowed to entertain strong doubts of his being a *scholar* or a *man of science* in his native language, or indeed in any other, till we have the evidence before us. And until then, we beg most respectfully to assure him that he *shall not stand at the head of any college* in this city to instruct Americans, or Englishmen either, in Homœopathy,—

and we say *shall not*, because we have already most effectually prevented such an event by the aid of this stump of a goose-quill. But if he will insist on being *at the head of a college, it must certainly have no students, for we shall not let them be victimized!*

But a few words more, and we have done. What evidence is there from Dr. Lippe's contributions, that he has *any knowledge of medicine*, or that he knows anything more than a long string of *mere symptoms*, which he has spent *fourteen years* in committing to memory; and surely every one knows that this does not constitute a knowledge of scientific medicine. It may, indeed, make what is commonly called a "*homœopathic doctor*,"—a name of scorn,—but it certainly does not make a *properly qualified homœopathic physician*.

In Dr. Lippe's papers we have not found a single original thought or idea, or any new or improved use made of any portion of old knowledge, unless, indeed we except that strange piece of medical philosophy, "*that there exists no such thing as primary, inveterate and secondary syphilis!*" an assertion advanced in direct contradiction to all the authorities of both schools, without a single word to sustain its truth beyond the mere *ipse dixit* of Dr. Lippe! How much this foolish dogmatism will weigh with the profession it is not for us to say, but we shall, for our own special information, just ask Dr. Lippe, *how do you know* whether there is or not? at what hospitals and colleges, at home or abroad, has your experience been acquired? how much, and what phases, of the disease in question, have you ever seen? It is easy for you to become a public benefactor by enlightening your brethren on these important points. He also gives us a very *learned* essay upon "*the most truly homœopathic treatment for burns and scalds*," in which he tells us very *learnedly* that "*combustions* are caused when *our body* comes in contact with fire, heated substances, mineral acids, alkalies, or some of the metallic salts and oxides." Now, here is quite a "*fine new*" meaning for the word, combustion, which certainly "*was never heard in these parts afore!*" What, call scalding with steam, hot water, or the corrosion of caustic or sulphuric acid, &c., *combustion?* and to tell us that there are "*four degrees*" of *this combustion*, too! In three pages of common twaddle on this every-day subject, this is all that is new! What is the meaning of the word combustion? what is its philosophical or chemical signification?

are scientific terms a "nose of wax," for Lippe to twist and distort till he makes a "regular Guy" of himself, by trying to appear "cute" and original! Doctor, "*a little learning is a dangerous thing,*" and *none at all* still more so, when one has the misfortune not to be aware of the fact that such is his own negative condition. Tell us, in the name of common sense, who has made such a use of this term before you? or will you tell us its common ordinary meaning, or its chemical meaning? or do you know whether it has any meaning at all or not? Indeed, you do *not* know it as a scholar, a thinker, or a writer should know!

We are really tired of you, and we are sorry for your sake as well as our own, that your folly, imprudence and presumption have compelled us to bring you into such public notice, and ourselves into such distasteful and disagreeable contact with you. And now we take our leave of yourself and your *party*, and if you and they are not more wise and humble, it is no fault of ours. You and they have provoked this very severe handling we have found it our duty to have recourse to, because we felt assured nothing less would answer the end we had in view. And although we admit severity, it is severity of a peculiar kind: in no case can you or your twelve lawyers and *all the clergy*, find a single instance in which we have taken exception to your, or their, private or personal reputation as good citizens or honest and respectable members of the community in which you live, ready, willing and able to comply with all its fair and just demands, as far as your *civil* or *private* relations are concerned. If you have construed our language in these papers to mean what we have never intended, it is no fault of ours;—only we say you do not understand it, that's all. You assumed a public, literary and professional attitude, in direct rivalry, and antagonistic, to your brethren. You tried directly and indirectly to establish for yourself a superior reputation by personal reflections upon themselves, and unjust criticism on their works, and their treatment of their patients; you have repeatedly boasted that you would "break down" their college, and establish a better one yourself, and you made use of overt means to bring all this about. Upon what amount of literary capital, let them now judge. It is upon this ground, and this alone, we challenge you;—in your *assumed* character of *scholar, philosopher and professor*, and as an intriguing partisan in open hostility to our alma mater! Besides all this, it may

easily be seen from the direct and incidental statements in the present paper, that we had no small amount of *personal provocation* given us to join issue with you and Dr. Hering. Your own first act of professional courtesy, was *that obstetric case* and its sequel; a case which promised only difficulty and danger, and left it very doubtful whether you were equal to the task of dealing with it yourself. It is further shown that in "the reply" to our article, Dr. Hering lent the weight of his influence to concoct with you and others, by private intrigue *at his own house*, the means of using the Provers' Union as a medium through which to "disgrace" us by a pretended "expulsion;"—how you, he, and your party have succeeded, we leave to others to judge. Dr. Hering knew that we were entering upon our medical career in this city, under as honorable and favorable auspices as most other men,—and yet Dr. Hering commenced *his* as a *medical author* at Allentown, Pa., in 1835; let Dr. Hering and the profession now judge who *was and is* the more competent; and we shall have but little trouble in proving that even his progress up to this day leaves but a very narrow space between us in point of sound and scientific medical knowledge—*symptoms committed to memory*, we willingly concede to you both. What your *private reasons* for this unprovoked hostility can be, we are at a loss to say, unless it is your dislike to have an additional member in the ranks of those of the profession who *can spell and write*. It is not, however, undesirable for yourself and Dr. Hering to be careful for the future how you provoke into hostile attitude men who may have resources and arms of which you may not be aware, and which you may be as ill able to resist as you are to appreciate. Men, in whose estimation your array of *ready cut and dry symptoms* may appear too vulgar to reduce them to the position of admirers, when they can look over the vast field of science and philosophy into which our art extends, and easily discover that it yet remains for you to take the first step over its boundary line.

ON FISTULA IN ANO.

BY PROFESSOR SYME.

(Lancet, Jan. 20, 1855.)

AFTER mentioning some well known points in the surgical history of this affection, Mr. Syme proceeds (we quote from a clinical lecture) :

About thirty-five years ago, a French surgeon, M. Ribes, called the attention of the profession to an important point in the pathology of fistula ; for while surgeons commonly regarded it as of three characters—viz., blind external, when it opened only at the surface ; blind internal, when it communicated with the rectum, but had no opening externally ; and complete, when both an external and an internal opening were present—he affirms that both openings always existed, and that the idea of blind external fistula had proceeded from an error of observation respecting the position of the internal aperture, which had been always sought for at the top of the sinus, whereas he showed it to be placed within one inch, or at most an inch and a quarter, from the orifice of the rectum, however high the sinus might extend ; and he also pointed out, that provided the incision included the internal orifice, it was sufficient for the cure of the disease. Here we see an improvement pathological and practical. The operation causing very little bleeding, no subsequent dressing, and the effect being certain.

It happened that my friend and colleague, Dr. Christison, being in Paris in 1821, became acquainted with the observations of M. Ribes, and on his return here mentioned them to me, at that time house-surgeon to this hospital, and directed me to the “ Archives Générales,” in which they were published. I took every opportunity of testing the truth of this new and startling statement, and found it to be substantially correct. On referring to M. Ribes’ paper, however, the explanation which he gave of the origin of fistula appeared to me unsatisfactory. He supposed that it always began by ulceration of the mucous membrane of the rectum, after which a portion of the contents of the bowel escaped into the surrounding textures, and gave origin to abscess there ; but I noticed that on opening the abscess no internal aperture was to be discovered by the most careful examination, and that the matter evacu-

ated was not mixed with fæculent or gaseous material, but simply a small quantity of well digested pus. I also observed that a fistula of some days' (or even weeks') standing, had, generally, no internal opening, and it therefore appeared to me, that the mucuous membrane of the rectum, although thin and denuded by the abscess, did not give way until after the matter had found vent at the surface, and the external orifice had closed to some extent, so as to confine the pus, and thus cause ulcerative absorption. This, however, is a matter of curiosity, rather than of practical utility. Notwithstanding the importance of the facts observed by M. Ribes, and the publicity which he gave to them, and notwithstanding the efforts which have ever been since made here by myself, and, for aught I know, by others elsewhere, to extend the knowledge of them, yet the greater number of surgeons for a long time obstinately refused to admit their truth, and to modify their practice accordingly.

In 1836, about sixteen years after the publication of M. Ribes' paper, Sir B. Brodie wrote thus: "If the internal opening be at the upper extremity of the sinus, the operation is simple enough. You introduce the forefinger of one hand into the rectum, and with the other hand you direct the curved, probe pointed bistoury through the external opening into the sinus, and afterwards through the internal opening into the rectum; then, keeping the probe point in contact with the forefinger, you draw the instrument downwards, dividing all the parts below it. If the internal opening be anywhere in the middle part of the sinus, you proceed in the same manner, but a second incision is then necessary, to lay open the upper extremity of the sinus. The probe point of the bistoury must be made to penetrate the tunics of the rectum before this second incision is made. If the sinus has no communication with the rectum, the tunics of the latter must be penetrated as near as possible to the upper extremity of the sinus, the incision being made afterwards in the manner which has been just explained."

In 1837, I published a treatise on "Diseases of the Rectum," in which I explained very fully the views of M. Ribes, and also pointed out the error into which I believed he had fallen with regard to the origin of the disease. In 1844, Sir B. Brodie writes: "The first thing to be done is to find the inner opening. I do not say that you will always succeed in finding it—certainly not the first time; but you will rarely fail if you look for it in the right place.

Formerly I often failed, and for this reason—I did not know where to look for it. I used to think that it was to be found in the upper part of the sinus, but it is never found there if the sinus runs high up. You must search for it immediately above the sphincter muscle.” Sir Benjamin does not say what his authority for this statement is, so we must suppose it to be original; but, if so, it is curious that, whilst discovering the truth made out by M. Ribes, he has also fallen into his error of supposing that the disease always begins by ulceration of the mucous membrane. For he says: “I believe that this is the way in which fistulæ in ano are always formed—namely, the disease is originally an ulcer of the mucous membrane of the bowel, extending through the muscular tunic into the cellular membrane external to the intestine, and I will state my reasons for entertaining that opinion. The matter is one of great interest as a question of pathology, but it is one of great importance, as I shall show by-and-by, in connection with surgical practice. It is admitted by every one, that in the greater number of cases of fistulæ in ano there is an inner opening to the gut, as well as the outer opening; and I am satisfied that the inner opening always exists, because I scarcely ever fail to find it now that I look for it in the proper place, and seek it carefully. I have, in a dead body, examined the parts where fistulæ had existed several times, and in every instance I have found an inner opening to it. This affords a very reasonable explanation of the formation of these abscesses; it is almost impossible to understand on any other ground why suppuration should take place in the vicinity of the rectum more than in any other part of the body, and why the cellular membrane there should suppurate more than the cellular membrane elsewhere. Moreover, the pus contained in an abscess near the rectum scarcely ever presents the appearance of laudable pus; it is always dirty colored and offensive to the smell—sometimes highly offensive, and occasionally you find fæculent matter in it quite distinct.” Now this I deny, and appeal to the abscesses which are frequently seen, and also to the distinct statements of the patients themselves.

The discovery of the uniform existence of an internal opening near the anus may be said to have perfected the operation, but in consequence of the old errors having been so long prevalent, the treatment has not hitherto been nearly so satisfactory as it should have been in the profession at large; and hence the explanation of

the fact, that patients affected with fistula in ano, come here from all parts of the country, under the impression that the operation they are about to undergo is a very serious one, and involves long confinement to bed. The operation, though very simple in principle, and easy of performance, is still one that requires care and patience. Whenever you examine a fistula of six weeks or two months' standing, you must proceed on the supposition that an internal opening exists. The track that leads to it may be tortuous, but you must search carefully again and again, if you fail to find the aperture in the first instance, and be very slow to be persuaded that it is not there. A piece of lint is placed in the wound at the time of the operation, and the only other dressing required is washing the part occasionally with soap and water for a few days.

CAN OUR QUACKS BEAT IT?

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal says:—Only a few days since, we heard the following prescription read, and which was written by a homœopathist in this city:—"R. Potassæ Iodidi, oz. $\frac{1}{2}$, Hydrargyri Deutiodidi, grs. 2, Aquæ Destillatæ, oz. 4, m. Dose, one teaspoonful three times a day. Still more abominable is this, frequently ordered. Hydrocyanic acid and concentrated nitric acid, combined; the formula and direction being such that eleven drops of prussic acid and six drops of nitric acid were given for a dose, three times a day.

QUERY.—We would ask the respectable editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, Is he quite sure that the doctor referred to is a homœopath? Is he not some old school pretender to homœopathy? We have quite a number of old school pretenders. Such a prescription betrays its parentage. It must somehow have emanated from allopathy. Give us the name of the prescriber, Mr. Medical and Surgical Journal. We ask for the name. He must be an allopath, or worse, an eclectic. Give us the name.

But, second, Mr. Medical and Surgical Journal, your query induced us to pick up one of your little works on quackery, to see what discoveries we could make, and on the first page we opened in the volume, we read the following prescription:—3 grs. of calo-

mel, 1 gr. of opium, 1 gr. of ipecacuanha, to be given at a dose in bilious pneumonia.—See Wood & Bache. Again, the same compendious little work, on page 279, for bilious fever, read the following prescription:—from five to fifteen grains of calomel may be given alone, to be followed in six or eight hours by $\frac{1}{2}$ an ounce of sulphate of magnesia, or in combination with ten grains of jalap, or colocyth, or rhubarb, the whole given at a dose. Should the patient be unable to take calomel, the mercurial pill in the dose of ten or fifteen grains, combined with extract jalap, &c., may be substituted for the above.

Half an ounce of sulphate of magnesia, sulphate of soda, nitrate of potassa and soda, &c., are recommended to be taken daily, if necessary, to keep the bowels open, or three or four fluid drachms of castor oil, as circumstances should require.—See Wood & Bache.

Yes, verily, Mr. Journal, your quacks can beat us yet.

As ordered by the professed homœopath, 2 grs. of mercury are given at about fifty doses; as ordered by the allopath, fifteen grains of calomel at a single dose. Consistency, thou art a “jewel.”

But we have something more to say on this subject. We would cheerfully unite with the Boston Journal in an effort to expose all this professional quackery, this detestable compounding of medicines, mixing up of different ingredients, the dynamic effects of which upon the system may be altogether different, or altogether unknown. Who can even guess what would be the effects of such combinations as are reported above, in whatever doses they might be administered, of nitric and hydrocyanic acid in combination, or of the dent. iodide of mercury given with the iodide of potassa? This mixing of drugs of opposite medical as well as chemical affinities, is a disgrace to the profession of medicine, at the sight of which, allopathy as well as homœopathy ought to hide its head in shame.

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.—HYDROPHOBIA.

(Continued from page 352.)

The sight of water, flashes of light, or polished surfaces, and sometimes the least noise, will bring on an attack of the most horrible spasm of the muscles of the pharynx and larynx. Any attempt on the part of the patient to overcome this dread of water is attended with unutterable anguish and the most distressing corporeal effort. The muscles of the face are thrown into violent agitation, and those of the throat and trunk contract so forcibly, as to threaten suffocation. These attacks at first, last but for a short time; but subsequently they occur with violence, and somewhat prolonged; the intervals between the paroxysms become shorter and more disturbed. The intellect, in a majority of instances, remains sound, and frequently the patient will utter warnings to those around him to keep out of his way lest he may bite them, or otherwise do them an injury. Ultimately, the whole system becomes agitated, the face red, the eyes sparkling, the pulse small and contracted, and the convulsions which occur at this stage are of the most inveterate character. Agony and terror seem to be depicted upon the countenance; a frothy saliva flows from the mouth. The muscles of the stomach and intestinal canal participate in the difficulty, and there is constant vomiting, with hiccough, and a cold, clammy sweat breaks out from every part of the cutaneous surface; the vital powers diminish, the pulse is scarcely perceptible and intermittent; the respiration becomes difficult, and the patient, amidst unutterable sufferings, sinks and dies.

The duration of the disease is not always the same. Sometimes it proves fatal in twenty-four hours, and at other times it may continue for three or four days, or a week; but the average duration of the disease before the patient sinks, is from fifty to sixty hours.

CAUSES.—The original cause of the disease in animals is not known; it is believed to be spontaneous, but when one becomes affected by it, others may become the victims, by having the virus communicated by its bite. It is not known that the disease ever arises spontaneously in human beings, or even in animals, except those of the canine race.

Some authors have maintained that genuine hydrophobia may be

induced by powerful impressions, made upon the nervous system ; and it is probable that many of the symptoms of rabies may be present in some cases of hysteria and monomania ; as for instance, in these diseases, the nerves of deglutition and respiration may be excessively impressible at the sight of liquids or mirrors, but the strong resemblance of these symptoms to hydrophobia does not argue their identity. They differ from them as not being dependent upon any lesion of the nervous centres that may not end in a restoration to health : whereas, the symptoms induced by the bite of a rabid animal are in most cases fatal.

Other authors have maintained that the symptoms following the bite of a rabid animal, and already described as characterizing hydrophobia, are essentially those of hysteria, and altogether dependent upon the imagination ; but this view of the case is negatived by the fact, that children so young as not to be suspected of being under the influence of the imagination, become the victims of the disease from the bite of rabid animals, and moreover, the disease is often communicated from animal to animal in the same way, a fact which proves beyond a doubt, that the imagination has but little to do in generating the disease.

It has also been argued that the bite of a healthy animal can induce the disease, and that it varies but little, if at all, from traumatic tetanus. There is undoubtedly a resemblance between these diseases, but they are not identical, and the fact must be acknowledged, that a rabid animal is capable of communicating a poison to men by inoculation, which induces a specific action upon the nervous centres, and produces the disease which is known under the name rabies or hydrophobia. Andral supposes that the disease is communicated exclusively through a wound, or a surface where the cuticle has been removed, but that it may be communicated by placing the virus in contact with a mucus membrane whose epithelium is entire, and *Chausier* says, the application to the nose of a handkerchief impregnated with the saliva of a mad dog, has been known to produce the disease in man.

Most writers have agreed, that the saliva modified by some morbid cause, is the agent by which the disease is induced in man, yet some have believed that the hydrophobic virus is a secretion by itself, mixed with the saliva, and with it applied to the wounded part. The investigations of *Marochetti*, a Russian physician, led

him to take this view from the fact that from the third to the ninth day of the disease, whitish pustules are perceptible near the frænum linguæ, which open spontaneously about the thirteenth day. The only confirmation of this learned gentleman's views has resulted from the dissection of numerous persons, who have died of hydrophobia, in whom were found considerable development, mostly inflammatory, of the mucus crypts at the base of the tongue, the pharynx and the upper aperture of the larynx. It would seem, also, from analogy, that the hydrophobic poison was a secretion from the blood, from the fact that lambs have become affected from merely sucking ewes that had been bitten by a rabid dog.

Hydrophobia does not always result from the bites of animals known to be decidedly rabid. Wagner remarks, that he has witnessed a number of instances of the kind, where the remedies employed were merely such as were superstitiously regarded effectual; and from this fact, he was led to infer that a predisposition to the disease rarely exists in man.

It is generally believed, that man laboring under the disease can communicate it to his fellow-man, but there are no facts to warrant the conclusion, yet the feeling is that he can. *Breschet* inoculated a dog with the saliva of a man suffering from hydrophobia, and in thirty-eight hours the animal became rabid, and bit several dogs, which also became rabid. How the hydrophobic virus placed thus eccentrically, affects the great nervous centres, is a mystery. The wound often heals entirely before the disease breaks out, and in some instances the recollection of the occurrence has been entirely obliterated.

Treatment.—Hydrophobia has uniformly been regarded a hopeless disease to attack, but cases have been cured under homœopathic treatment. Doctor *Ramsbotham* of Nova Scotia, has cited a case of cure of confirmed rabies in a man, and Doctor *Comstock* of St. Louis, has also detailed the successful treatment of a case that came under his care. The most important part of the treatment to be employed, however, is that which obviates an attack of the disease, after a person has been bitten. There are judicious means to be employed at once for the purpose of extracting the virus when one has been bitten, and none will be more likely to prove successful than the use of the potential cautery, or red-hot iron, held so near the wound as to attract to the surface the poison that

may have been communicated. Should the application of the caustery fail, but little advantage can be gained from excision of the part, or by disorganizing the entire surface of the wound, as absorption takes place so rapidly, that the whole system may be under the influence of the virus before the knife could be successfully brought to bear in the case. A variety of means have been suggested to be employed, as prophylactics, that need not be detailed, as nearly all of them have failed, in cases where there was no want of evidence of the virus having been communicated.

In the homœopathic treatment of this disease and its prevention, the following remedies may be employed, viz. : *dry or radiating heat, Belladonna, Cantharides, Hyoscyamus, Lachesis* and *Stramonium*.

Hahnemann cites *Belladonna* as a certain preventative of hydrophobia, to be given every three or four days, but the application of radiating heat at the same time is commended. This may be done by means of a red-hot iron or live coal, placed as near the wound as possible without burning the skin or causing too intense pain; the heat should be continued for an hour, or until the patient begins to shiver and stretch himself.

Cantharides, a useful preventive as well as a curative, may be employed when there is great dryness and burning in the mouth and throat, much aggravated on attempting deglutition; or paroxysms of fury, alternating with convulsions, which are renewed by any pressure on the throat or abdomen, and also by the sight of water; fiery redness and sparkling of the eyes, which become prominent and frightfully convulsed; spasms in the throat, excited by the pain produced by the action of the muscles of deglutition, when attempting to take fluids. *Belladonna* is more available when there is drowsiness, with ineffectual efforts to sleep, in consequence of mental anguish and agitation, sense of burning in the throat, with accumulation of frothy saliva in the throat and mouth; frequent desire for drinks, which are spurned on being presented, and a suffocating or constrictive sensation in the throat on attempting to swallow; the muscles of deglutition spasmodically affected, so that the patient cannot swallow; glowing redness and bloated appearance of the face; pupils immovable and generally dilated; great dread; occasional desire to strike, spit at, or bite, or tear anything the hands are laid upon; inclination to run away, continual tossing about, great physical activity, twitching in various muscles, especi-

ally those of the face, ungovernable fury, foaming at the mouth and tetantic spasms.

Along with *Belladonna*, or either before or after the use of this remedy, *Hyoscyamus* may be employed where the convulsions are severe and of long duration, and when the inclination to spit or bite is not so apparent, but a desire to injure those who attend in some way ; dread of liquids on the account of the pain of swallowing and spitting out the *saliva* for the same reason ; excessive convulsions, with loss of consciousness soon after an attempt to exercise the organs of deglutition.

When strong convulsions result from fixing the eye upon brilliant objects, or polished surfaces, or whatever reminds the patient of water, *Stramonium* may be employed, and especially when there are fits of laughter and singing ; severe convulsions, alternating with ungovernable fury. *Lachesis*, when the convulsions take place, may prove a useful remedy.

Argentum nit., *Mercurius viv.* and *Veratrum*, are remedies that may also be consulted in the treatment of this distressing malady.

DELIRIUM.

By this term is meant a kind of incoherence so often associated with fever, a wandering or straying of the mind from strict rationality.

CAUSES.—These may be *centric* or *eccentric*, or those that are seated out of the encephalon, or those acting immediately upon it.

In persons highly impressible, the slightest pain in any locality by inducing modifications of the cerebral function, may cause it eccentrically, and it may be caused centrically, by cerebritis, hyperæmia, or from any cause acting immediately upon the cerebral hemispheres or their meninges ; or it may occur from want of excitement in this nervous centre, which may be occasioned by loss of blood, or loss of vital power occasioned by the over-action of the nervous function, as in typhoid fevers. It may also be occasioned by exciting or intoxicating drinks and narcotics, or any thing that impairs the function of that part of the brain immediately concerned as the seat of the mental faculties.

The only *pathological appearances* that have been disclosed by post-mortem examinations, where persons have died in a state of

delirium, are traces of inflammation of the meninges, and of the convulsions and hyperæmia of the blood-vessels of the cerebrum.

Treatment.—Delirium being for the most part a symptom attendant upon febrile diseases, it is to the peculiarity of the symptom, or rather to the kind of delirium manifest, that we are to direct the attention, in order to ascertain the remedy that may be indicated.

Against delirium in general, the following remedies may be employed: *Aconite*, *Arnica*, *Aurum*, *Belladonna*, *Bryonia*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Stramonium* and *Sulphur*.

When the delirium appears marked with anxiety or fright, as if the patient were very solicitous about something, or is actually frightened on the account of something illusory, the remedies that have been found to answer the best are, *Belladonna*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Opium* and *Stramonium*. If the pulse appears to be full and bounding, or other signs of inflammatory action, *Aconite* may be employed. If there is gastric derangement, or constipation of the bowels, *Nux vomica*, or if at the age of puberty in young females, *Pulsatilla* and *Calcarea carb.* may prove useful.

When the delirium is characterized by the patient indulging in all kinds of fancies, *Belladonna*, *Stramonium* and *Sulphur* are three of the most prominent remedies to be employed. *Hyoscyamus* and *Opium* are sometimes useful, and so also may *Chamomilla*, *Sepia* and *Silicia* be called for in certain temperaments.

For *loquacious delirium*, *Belladonna*, *Rhus tox.*, *Stramonium* and *Veratrum*. When the patient is merry, *Belladonna*, or else, *Aconite*, *Opium* and *Veratrum*.

For a *low muttering delirium*, *Arsenicum*, *Belladonna*, *Hyoscyamus* and *Stramonium* are most frequently employed. *Carbo vegetabilis*, *Nux vomica* and *Opium* are also worthy of being consulted.

For *furious delirium*, *Belladonna*, *Bryonia* and *Opium*, are among the most prominent remedies. *Aconite* and *Colocynthis* are sometimes useful, to meet certain conditions. *Plumbum* and *Veratrum* are also indicated; the former, when there is obstinate constipation, as in cerebral inflammations, and the latter, when there is great prostration and tendency to diarrhœa.

For *delirium* characterized by *singing*, *Belladonna* is indicated. The symptom presents so many phases, as being mirthful, sad, melancholic, &c., that it is not unlikely that the polychrests may be the most reliable remedies to consult, but in prescribing for this

single phenomenon, the fact must not be lost sight of, that the age, temperament, general features of the disease, in other respects, are severally to be taken into account.

MENTAL ALIENATION.

The apparent distinction between delirium and mental alienation is, that the former is attendant upon febrile conditions of the system and the latter not ; but the term "mental alienation" is not easily defined, although it is usually employed to denote a continued or intermittent derangement of the intellectual and moral faculties. When the system is exalted by fever, the derangement of the mind varies as the fever rages, in a greater or less degree, but in cases of pure mental alienation, where no fever is present, the variable symptoms are attributed to other causes. Most writers have considered the following divisions of mental alienation advisable to be borne in mind, in order to facilitate accurate statistical comparisons which are so desirable.

1st. Those cases of mental alienation which consist in a mere perversion of the mental and moral faculties, and

2. Those which consist in the impairment or loss of the same faculties.

Under the first may be recorded, *mania*, in which the intellect is completely perverted upon all subjects: second, *monomania*, or partial insanity, in which the perversion is restricted to one subject; and third, *moral insanity*, which consists in a morbid perversion of the natural feelings. Affections, inclinations, temper, habits, moral disposition and natural impulses, without any remarkable disorder of the intellect, and particularly without any insane illusions.

Under the second may be reckoned, first, *dementia*, in which the intellect has been impaired or destroyed; and, second, *idiocy*, where the deficiency of the intellect is congenital.

The *symptoms of mental alienation consisting in perversion of the intellectual and moral faculties* are as follows, viz.: some strange aberrations are first noticed in the tastes, habits and notions differing entirely from those of persons of sound mind. These may continue for an uncertain period before the disease becomes fully formed; after which the strangest hallucinations are experienced, the patient sees objects that exist only in his own imagination; he

hears unusual sounds, and the senses of taste and smell are also subject to equal illusions. He will often expose himself to the extremes of temperature, either to the cold until his limbs become stiffened, or to extreme heat sufficient to roast them, without uttering any complaint. It is thought by some, that extreme cold has not the same effect upon the insane as the sane, but this is a mistake, —the organs of perception being disordered, the painful sensations may not be experienced, though the physical effects may be the same. The reason, at times, becomes entirely dethroned, and then there may be incessant and incoherent talking, in the most excited manner. At other times, the reason may seem right upon all subjects but one, and when this cord is touched, the insane delirium is excited.

Although the reasoning faculties may be perverted, the memory of past events may be perfectly retained, but the affections towards friends and associates may be perfectly transformed into unwarrantable suspicions and hatred. The feelings and actions of the strangest character—some may be gay, timid, wild, frank and humble—others, sober, dull, passionate, cunning, mischievous and haughty—some are destructive and quarrelsome, and will do violence to persons and things that surround them, and some seem engrossed with melancholy, and are full of religion. The expression of the countenance betrays the predominant emotion. When excited, the face is flushed, the eyes sparkling, the voice is clear and loud; when otherwise, the face is usually pale, the expression tranquil, and the voice weak. Sleep is banished for the most part, or when indulged in, it is generally disturbed, and by no means refreshing. Unlike the febrile delirium, the insane condition presents no derangement of the nutritive function; the appetite may be as good and the digestion as easy, as in persons enjoying sound health.

In *mania*, the mental perversion is generally excited; when its highest pitch is attained suddenly, it has been termed *acute mania*, or raving madness. When more tardy, and the disease seems protracted, it is termed *chronic*.

In *monomania*, or in cases where the insane delirium concerns but one idea, the patient, if ambitious, fancies himself a king, or some exalted personage; if religious, he is perpetually praying; if misanthropic, he indulges in hatred of his fellow men; and if despairing, he is in constant dread of his fate hereafter, &c.

Moral insanity consists in a morbid perversion of the sentiments, feelings and affections, and frequently without any derangement of the mental faculties; the patient is singular, eccentric, fickle, and capricious, and manifests a tendency to gloom or sadness or to preternatural excitement of angry and malicious feelings, and a propensity to steal or to commit other kinds of mischief, and, in short, the whole moral character of the patient is changed.

The *symptoms of mental alienation which consist in the impairment or loss of the intellectual and moral faculties*, are such as may result from *dotage*, and are characterized by total incoherence of ideas, absence of all faculty of reflection, and the sensorium seems to have lost all power of receiving impressions from without; the recollection of the past is lost, though sometimes what transpired in early life is recollected. In complete dementia, however, nothing is remembered, all intellectual and moral manifestation is gone, and the patient only lives as a helpless and deplorable character. Sometimes the animal feelings persist, and he cries or laughs, without any assignable cause.

This form of the disease usually takes place gradually, and sometimes after furious mania, and at others, the sinking is but a gradual subsidence of the faculties.

Idiocy differs from *dementia* or loss of the faculties, in being a congenital difficulty, usually dependent upon imperfect organization of the encephalon, and it may exist in various degrees.

The *symptoms* that are characteristic of fully developed idiocy cannot well be mistaken; a vacant stare of the eyes, slaverling from the mouth, which is usually open. The cerebral convolutions for the most part appear to be undeveloped; the head is deformed, so as to attract the attention even of the unprofessional, and accompanying these deformities are usually found a faulty memory, and great difficulty of learning; an imperfect articulation, rendering it difficult to pronounce a single word; an absence of ideas, and in some instances a total want of comprehension. The degree to which the power of speech exists, has been regarded as a measure of the intelligence. The idiocy is extreme when the subject cannot appreciate words spoken to him, so as to be able to repeat them, but less so, when the degree of comprehension is greater.

In consequence of this deficiency of intellect, the animal propensities, developed at the age of puberty, being uncontrolled by

reason, are often offensively manifested, and the idiot requires constant attention to guard him against filth, and to prevent him from disgusting exhibitions.

In some rare cases, the memory is not much impaired, or a talent for music, or something analogous, may be so great as to excite astonishment.

In advanced stages of insanity, a *general paralysis* has been observed, supposed by some to be dependent upon chronic inflammation of the circumference of the brain. This happens to men more frequently than women, and especially in cases that have already passed into dementia. Impaired action of the tongue, causing the articulation to become difficult, is usually the first sign of impaired action, after which the muscles of the inferior extremities partake of the difficulty, so that the gait becomes unsteady, and perhaps after an elapse of months, the patient is unable to preserve an erect posture, and he is compelled to remain seated, or in a horizontal posture all the time. The parts subjected to pressure under such circumstances, become irritated, and gangrenous blisters will form, establishing an irritation that may fatally implicate the vital organs. *Calmeil* has stated the mean duration of the paralysis to be thirteen months, and that it rarely happens that recovery takes place.

Causes of mental alienation.—There is no doubt but that a constitutional predisposition to insanity exists, either hereditary or original, from the fact that the application of the same exciting causes will induce it in some that will have no such effect upon others. It has been observed that persons born after insanity has been developed in their parents, are more subject to the disease than those born before, and that where such hereditary disposition exists, the disease is liable to appear in the different members of a family at a particular period of life.

Andral mentions the fact, that children have become affected from a powerful emotion experienced by the mother during uterogestation, and in consequence have become predisposed to insanity at the age of puberty.

Mental imbecility is common before the age of puberty, but mental alienation seldom occurs till after. It has been observed, that insanity is most frequent between the ages of thirty and forty, and a greater proportion of females than males are thus afflicted.

The influence of previous attacks is one of the most powerful predisposing causes, and most commonly after one attack, the individual is more liable than before. There have been rare cases, however, that after repeated attacks of insanity, the predisposition has been lost.

An elevation of temperature has an injurious effect upon insane persons, and the summer is more exciting to them than cold weather, and besides it is known that heat may operate as a cause of the disease. It has been observed that recruits predisposed to insanity, when drafted for service in the torrid region, are in most instances, subject to a development of the disease. The number of admissions in the Insane Asylums, it has been observed, are much greater during the heat of summer than in winter.

The idea was formerly cherished, that the influence of the full moon was detrimental to the insane, and on this account they received the appellation of *lunatics*, and insanity became designated by the term *lunacy*, and light often proves exciting to the insane, and this is likely to be the case at the full of the moon and at the break of day. The stimulus of light frightens some, pleases others, and agitates all, and this will account for the insane being more agitated at the full of the moon than at other periods. *Coup de soleil*, or sun stroke, has been assigned as a cause of madness, but by no means common. Injuries of the head sometimes induce mania, but not suddenly. Misfortunes of the kind more frequently cause inflammation of the brain, as the immediate consequence; and when mental alienation does supervene, it is not usually until the lapse of considerable time after receiving the injury. Intemperance, it is thought, may prove an indirect cause of mental alienation, by inducing previous states, that favor the development of the disease. The excessive use of prostrating drugs, may so tax the vital energies of the economy, as to shatter the nervous system, and bring on insanity. Excessive venery has not only been reckoned among the causes of insanity, but, also, as one of the prominent causes of dementia. Sudden suppression of the catamenia, pregnancy, undue lactation, and even celibacy, have been included among the causes of mental alienation. Various diseases of the brain may have this deplorable result. Violent mental emotions, misery, and great calamities, are well known causes, and to these we may add, as occasional causes, care, anxiety, passions, appre-

hensions relative to salvation, indigestion and diseases of the intestinal canal, loss of blood and many other circumstances.

Idiocy is common in Norway and in the mountainous countries generally, owing, it is believed, to the absence of society, while, on the contrary, mental perversion is the product of society and of intellectual and moral influences. In idiocy, causes have interfered to interrupt the development of the organs. In madness, the brain being over excited, has transcended the normal boundaries.

Locality may have some influence in the production of certain forms of insanity, as well as in the generation of other forms of disease, but it is doubtful whether a mountainous country is more unfavorable in this respect than one more level. It is said, that in Wales, which is unusually mountainous, and Italy, which is traversed by ridges, the proportion of the insane is very small.

Cretinism is one of the most striking instances of idiocy induced by locality. This seems to be a species of fatuity connected with personal deformity, and is known to exist in the mountains of Switzerland.

Almost any serious derangement, or even torpidity of the digestive tube, is likely to produce some form of insanity, but most commonly that of hypochondriasis.

Diseases of the pulmonary organs, on the contrary, may not give rise to cerebral disturbances,—the intellect may continue unclouded until within a very limited period previous to dissolution.

The Pathology of Mental Alienation, has enlisted the attention of the most critical observers. Pinel, and others, after many examinations of the dead, came to the conclusion, that no lesions were discovered, calculated to throw any steady light upon the true nature of the disease. More modern observers, have maintained that the brain presents alterations which may be detected by pathologists—and these alterations differ according as the disease is acute or chronic, and with the nature of the symptoms, whether they pertain to the intellect or otherwise. That insanity is a purely nervous disease upon which pathological investigations can throw but little light, is indeed probable. The vital forces of the brain may become deranged without the supervening of any alteration of structure, that can be detected. It is known that both acute and chronic inflammations of the viscus may take place, and it seems probable that the latter may be the sequel of the former, and be the primary

physical cause of insanity. Some writers have maintained that disease in some other locality may establish an irritation by metastasis in the cerebral convolutions. Post mortem disclosures have utterly failed of establishing the truth of these propositions and we are still left to conjecture as to the pathological condition of the cerebral hemispheres, attendant on mental alienation.

There are, however, some appearances, that have been described, worthy of attentive study; they may be regarded as letters in the alphabet, that may ultimately come into use in throwing light upon the subject.

Foville and *Pinel*, have each recorded the result of his observations on the vesicular matter, viz:—that it is injected, of a deep red color and preternaturally soft—that the membranes are opaque and covered with serum lymph or pus. The bones have been found, in some cases, unnaturally indurated and thickened, and in other cases they have presented a kind of atrophy in which the diploe had disappeared, allowing the external plate to crowd upon the internal, so as to present a manifest depression externally. But even if these appearances are confirmed, an interesting question might arise as to whether they are to be regarded the organic cause of insanity or the effect.

The *morbid appearances* of the brain, in cases where persons have died, demented, are better confirmed. Paleness of the viscus, as if from the absence of blood, has been well confirmed—a collapsed condition of the convolutions, has also been observed—sometimes indurated, at others softened.

In congenital idiocy, the convolutions are seldom developed and some of the constituents of the brain in its healthy condition are believed to be wanting. The brain is classed among the albuminous tissues, and when normal the fact that it contains a definite proportion of phosphorus and sulphur, would argue that its health would cease, if either of these were wanting or deficient. *Vauquelin's* chemical analysis of the brain, in numerous instances, disclosed the interesting fact, that the due proportion of phosphorus and sulphur, was essentially wanting in the brains of idiots. And it is not improbable but that acute encephalitis, such as occurs in malignant cases of scarlatina may diminish the quantity of these essential ingredients, and be one cause of the dementiæ that is sometimes witnessed in the cases that recover.

The researches of Esquirol, present many interesting facts with regard to the shape of the skull, as having some relation to the intellectual faculties; but though these researches have been great, they may not have accomplished, as yet, anything remarkable, by way of elucidating the relations which these malformations may have to disordered intellects.

Treatment.—Insanity was regarded in the earlier ages, an awful dispensation of the Almighty, entirely out of the province of medicine, but in more modern times, it has been regarded a disease, that may often prove curable under a proper course of treatment. Since the attention of philanthropists have been turned to the insane, much has been accomplished of a praiseworthy character, in providing for the proper treatment of this unfortunate class.

Asylums have been provided in all christian countries, that have been the means of exerting a beneficial influence, and in the United States the results have been very encouraging. A very great proportion of the *lunatics* admitted into these asylums, have been cured; but whether by any therapeutical treatment that has been brought to bear, is exceedingly doubtful. But little opportunity has been presented for testing homœopathic treatment in these cases. All the asylums have been, and still are, under the direction of allopathic practitioners. In private practice, however, many cases have received homœopathic treatment, and it is believed, with salutary results. The moral treatment that has been provided in connection with asylums, has undoubtedly proved of the utmost advantage, for it must appear reasonable that insane patients surrounded by a combination of circumstances, in every way calculated to favor the recuperation of the physical powers, and at the same time well adapted for the training of the moral and intellectual faculties, are placed in a better condition for receiving benefit than they otherwise would be, if left unprotected and exposed.

The most reasonable course of treatment is that which may be divided into the *moral* and *medicinal*.

The *moral treatment* relates to the management of the insane by secluding them from such influences, as appear to be unfavorable to their mental condition, and this, it must be admitted, can better be accomplished by placing them in appropriate seclusion, in some well regulated asylum, than by leaving them to the care of relations or servants at home.

There may be cases, however, in which patients are attached to their homes, and relations and associates, to a degree, that secures to them sufficient reason to prevent them from violent outbreaks. Such cases may not be benefitted by forcibly taking them hence; great caution should be exercised in cases of the kind, and regard must be had to the manifestations in all cases, both of mania and monomania. But in a large majority of cases, the maniac detests his nearest and dearest relatives and friends, and it becomes essential, both for his protection and recovery, as well as to secure the safety of others, that he should be placed in an asylum.

In every well regulated insane establishment, the patients are classified. The furious should be separated from the more peaceable, and those who are convalescent should be allowed a secluded quarter of their own. The very violent should be so secluded and restrained, as to subdue their turbulence, if possible without the strait jacket or chains,—for these shackles, too often prove baneful in their influences, and excite and infuriate the unfortunate victims. It is now a well settled principle, that the insane should never be harshly treated—firmness, and the absence of everything like temper on the attendant, are absolutely indispensable, and this course, it has been found, rarely fails of tranquillizing the most furious and malevolent. In all cases, however the maniac and monomaniac should be so well guarded, as to be continually under the observation of the keeper. The entire abolition of all personal restraint, in the management of the insane, has of late been found entirely effective. To accomplish this a most rigid system of constant superintendence is necessary—the attendants should be humane and mild, and always ready to speak a kind and soothing word, and moreover to seek for pleasing subjects to interest the minds of the insane, when practicable. The results of this course of treatment have been highly satisfactory in many of the most prominent insane institutions in this country, France and England.

In cases where corporeal restraint cannot be entirely dispensed with, it has been found useful to place the patient by himself under as favorable circumstances as possible, and in the best possible situation for him to receive all the kindness that can be bestowed upon him.

This kind of discipline for the insane, it is believed, has been salutary in many cases, without even a resort to medicinal treatment

at all, and all systematic efforts to induce a mental occupation of any kind to prevent insane ideas from intruding, must favor the convalescence of the patient. By carefully studying the mental characteristics and inclinations of patients, it is probable, that nearly all may be provided with labor or amusement, that will exert the most beneficial influence. Some may delight in agriculture, some in horticulture, some in the work shop, some in music, some in reading pleasing stories, or narratives—all these classes should be provided with occupation in accordance with their tastes—for the very one provided requires the attention, in such a way, as to produce a moral revulsion, preventing the topics of hallucination from engrossing the mind. Statistical reports are sufficiently abundant to prove the salutary influence of this kind of training for the minds of the insane.

It has been found impossible to benefit monomaniacs, by trying to reason them out of their peculiar notions; all arguing with them should be avoided. Whatever insane idea the monomaniac may possess, should be indulged; as for instance, when one fancies, that some live animal is in him, a counter impression may be made, by pretending to subject him to a process for its removal. Esquirol, mentions the case of one who fancied he could not void his urine, on the account of producing a second deluge, but he was prevailed upon, by being told that the town was on fire, and that he could save it from destruction, by allowing his urine to pass from him. Other interesting cases of the sort are recorded, showing the necessity of refraining from contradiction, while at the same time, a judicious course, apparently favoring the insane idea, may prove effectual in curing the difficulty.

It is impossible to point out the precise course to be pursued in the moral treatment of the insane, under all cases. Much must be left to the discretion of physicians.

The *moral treatment* of those suffering from *Dementia* and idiots has of late years attracted the attention of philanthropists.—That the mind can be improved by culture, is a fact universally admitted. A systematic method of training or cultivating any degree of mental endowment that may exist in the idiot, it is probable, may contribute to his improvement, if not to his entire restoration. Mr. Richards, in his school for idiots, has demonstrated that a vast amount can be accomplished by bringing into action in a methodical manner, the most obscure minds of the idiotic class.

CLINICAL RECORD AND AUTOPSY.

BY C. E. TOOTHAKER, M. D.

Early in the summer of 1854, I was called to perform an autopsy on the body of Mr. J. F., who had died at his residence in this city a day or two previous. The patient had received homœopathic treatment for one week, and had subsequently been transferred into the hands of an allopathic practitioner, in whose care he had remained some weeks previous to his death.

Dr. Bishop was invited to assist me, by whose aid and in accordance with whose general views, the following report has been prepared.

The deceased had been a man of spare habits, of nervous bilious temperament, sallow complexion, and of considerable muscular power, and force of character.

He had never been healthy, always complaining of weakness in the side and breast, (hypochondria and epigastrium or scrobiculus). A bilious fever, twenty-two years ago, had left him in a condition of mental weakness like a child, for some weeks. Since that period he has always been complaining, though never very sick. Would be tolerably well through the winter, but every spring suffered from loss of appetite, inward weakness, faintness, depression of spirits, dejection, and fever, symptoms which appeared to become more and more aggravated every year. Last October, after his return from a journey to the western states, his complaints appeared to increase, attended with general languor and depression, costiveness, sleeplessness,—often lay awake nearly all night,—appetite good, but food appeared to do no good. Continued in this way several months.

After this, his senses began to fail, formed erroneous ideas of things, thought that he was in debt more than he was worth, and that his creditors would distress him, all of which was false; could not be convinced that it was not all true; once made an attempt upon his life; complained of distress in the head, heaviness and general nervousness.

He now took to his bed, and his wife called in a physician (allopathic); became very weak, but his mind, for a short period, appeared more rational; constantly very costive, except when under the influence of purgative medicine.

After this he took a severe cold, and relapsed into his former

desponding state, run of strange notions, asking singular questions, and at times would appear to have lucid intervals, but never fully rational, or at least not long at a time, and no sensible improvement was manifest till about the period of his decease.

After having been placed under homœopathic treatment one week, without much apparent change, he was again placed in charge of an old school physician, who attempted to relieve him by the administration of purgative medicines. He passed a few dry, hard, round sybila, with great effort, and then purgatives ceased to have any effect, and for about two weeks before his death, the bowels were not moved, although purgative medicines were freely given. For eight or nine days no food was taken.

After this, a lump of sugar was asked for, and then other food was taken in small quantities. This he appeared to relish; spoke of its tasting well; and continued to take a little food occasionally, till his death, which happened in about two days from the time his appetite returned. During the last few days of his life, he appeared more comfortable; rested and slept better than before, and to unpractised eyes almost seemed improving.

For at least twenty years before his death, he had been in the frequent habit of taking cathartic medicines, often took calomel, and afterwards powders, to brighten or strengthen him up, as he expressed it. These medicines were taken almost every spring, and frequently at other times in the year. Often, for years past, unable to do more for two months or more at a time, than just to drag about; dejected; melancholic; dyspeptic.

POST MORTEM.

On removing the calvarium, the superficial veins were found congested, the pia mater having the appearance of a complete network of blood vessels, investing the entire brain. The whole venous system of the dura mater, the pia mater, and all the veins of the cerebrum, being much more perfectly injected, than it were possible to have been done with an injecting tube.

In following the course of the superior longitudinal sinus, the torcular herophili, and the lateral sinuses, they were all found distended with venous blood; also the straight sinus, and the inferior longitudinal sinuses.

In the cerebrum, the substance of the brain generally appeared firm, and in a comparatively healthy state. In the cerebellum, it

was much more extensively softened, large portions of the cerebellum being nearly broken down, or with scarcely sufficient tenacity to retain themselves in position; the white, or neurine, assimilating in color and appearance, the grey matter, and so softened as almost to approach a liquid state. There did not appear to be, properly speaking, any thing like water on the brain.

Upon opening the cavity of the chest, the lungs exhibited evidences of considerable inflammatory congestion, and incipient hepatization, throughout their entire extent, but still with sufficient crepitation and power to have carried on the circulation for some time; no tubercles or softening. The left lung was much more affected than the right. A considerable portion of this lung was in a solid mass, grey hepatization, and in a state approaching collapse, retaining still, however, its natural form, and without adhesions, except, perhaps, some slight adhesions of the more deeply hepatized portions to the back, along or near the shoulder blades. The inferior and posterior portions of the lungs were much more seriously affected than the superior and anterior portions, as if from the inflammation having extended upward along the spine. The lungs on their exterior surface, exhibited that peculiar pale or white appearance, which I have been accustomed to regard as indicative of lack of power or vital force.

The heart was very small, (*atrophy of the heart*) and entirely empty of blood. The cardiac veins were fully engorged, forming a complete and beautiful net-work over the entire surface, and of a bright blue color.

The liver was the most healthy organ in the cavities of the body, the results of some recent inflammation being all that could be perceived. The spleen was much more affected than the liver, but it would be difficult to say whether its condition had much to do with the general health of the patient.

The stomach was most seriously implicated; its interior surface or mucous membrane being nearly destroyed, its color entirely changed to a dirty brown; the parietes being thin and almost transparent; the rugæ entirely obliterated; the mucous membrane seemed changed, and to have lost the power of secreting its accustomed gastric juice, in place of which it was covered with a dirty, watery substance, of a brownish color, and apparently altogether unfit to aid in the digestive functions, as the stomach also must have been

for the reception and transmission of food. It would scarcely seem possible, that ordinary remedies could act upon tissues so much disorganized, or could, through them, be communicated to other organs and tissues, so as to produce an action favorable to the restoration of health. Much more reasonably might a homœopathic remedy, acting through the healthy papilla of the mouth and tongue, be expected to reach the nervous centres, and to modify the diseased conditions, than crude doses of drugs, in such a stomach, could be expected to produce results favorable to health.

The intestinal canal, throughout its entire extent, was in a condition quite similar to the condition of the stomach; the whole interior coating, mucous membrane, being softened, its rugæ generally obliterated, its power of excitation and consequent contractility lost; a semi-serous exudation in a thickened or half-dried state, covering its surface in place of the accustomed mucous coat and mucous secretion. The whole length of the canal was filled alternately with lumps or knots of hardened fœces and wind or gas, the gas occupying the spaces between each sybilla, or knot, distending the parieties of the intestine, and to a great extent preventing the peculiar vermicular motion necessary for the expulsion of the contents of the canal. Thus from the pylorus to the anus, the duodenum, the colon, the small intestines, &c., might be considered as a continuous bladder or sack, formed of a series of short bladders, each filled with wind, and each separated from the other by a knot or ball of hardened sybilla, creating what might be termed a series of incarcerations, alternated with a series of knotted sybilla, and entirely preventing the natural healthy vermicular motion of the intestines.

ENQUIRIES AND REFLECTIONS.

As a result of this autopsy, the following enquiries and suggestions present themselves. First, where is the seat of this disease? The brain and the abdomen at death exhibit the most important lesions. Is the disease located in either of these organs, and do the other organs suffer only by sympathy, or where is the location of the dyscrasia which has brought about this condition, and which has resulted in death?

When other evidences are wanting, the early symptoms are to be regarded of primary importance in determining the seat of a dis-

ease. These symptoms point unequivocally to the abdominal cavity and to the digestive and assimilative functions. The case is one of want of assimilation. The digestive functions might have been weak. They no doubt became impaired. The assimilative functions were much weaker and more impaired. In the earlier stages, the digestion had been perfect. At length it became occasionally deficient. But the assimilative functions were never healthy. Sufficient food had been taken to supply the wants of the system, and this food had to sufficient extent been prepared in the stomach to enter into the circulation, but here it had been arrested. Those organs that form the blood, and convert its elements into the various tissues of the body, were unable properly to fulfil their office. The first effect was seen in the lean and spare figure of the man, even in what was thought to be his healthy state. This deficiency in assimilation produced a deficiency in the digestive function. The excess of nourishment is thrown back into the intestinal canal, at first to increase the fœcal discharges, at length to be converted into gaseous products, until, finally, these gasses so accumulate, as to fill all parts of the abdominal cavity. The fœces are converted into balls or lumps, and are pressed upon and rolled over, till they become hardened, and are coated with slime from the irritated and decaying mucous surfaces, which a feverish heat in some portions of the canal renders dry and sticky. The fœces are consequently voided with difficulty, and after much straining, having been a long time in passing through the whole intestinal canal, blocked up as they are in their passage by successive balls of sybilla, and bladders of wind or gas.

The disease in this case existed at first in the assimilative functions. It was afterwards reflected back upon the digestive organs and upon the whole internal mucous surface, and afterwards reached the brain, which it affected more seriously in the cerebellum, the seat of animal life, than in the cerebrum, the seat of perception and reason, though at times its effects were to be perceived in nearly every part of the whole organism.

This case brings to mind some remarks of the lamented Professor Loomis on chlorosis, which were published in this Journal whilst he was occupying the chair of Professor of Midwifery and the Diseases of Women and Children in the Homœopathic College of Pennsylvania. Chlorosis was regarded by the Professor as a disease having

very intimate relation to digestion and assimilation, and it would require but little exercise of the imaginative powers to suppose that this patient was nearly in the same condition in early life, as are those who in passing the climacterics of life, are affected with chlorotic symptoms.

The second question which suggests itself is, Why did this patient become deranged? An answer to this question might be supposed to be found in the extremely diseased condition of the brain itself, and especially of the cerebellum, from which febrile irritation had been made to extend itself to the cerebrum, and to involve the whole brain. Perhaps, however, a more correct answer would be found in the extensively diseased condition of the whole mucous surface of the intestines, as well as of the stomach, of the effects of which irritations upon the brain, we have such numerous examples in living subjects. The irritation of teething, of worms, of several forms of abdominal fever and inflammation, are instances illustrating by their reflex action upon the brain, the connection subsisting between this great central organ and these mucous surfaces, just as the fact that extensive destruction of the exterior surface, or of the skin, (as by burns and scalds) is usually attended with delirium, is an illustration of the connection subsisting between the brain and the outer surfaces of the body.

We submit, also, whether the co-existence of extensive disease of the mucous surfaces, with so entire a softening of the cerebellum, the cerebrum being found at the same time in a comparatively healthy state, is or is not confirmatory of the idea, that the cerebellum is in some peculiar manner the seat of life.

The third inquiry we would make is in regard to treatment:—What might reasonably be expected from medicines in such a condition?

First, Cathartic medicines, as they would usually be administered by allopathic physicians. What effect might they be expected to produce?

The usual effect of cathartic medicines when taken into a healthy stomach is two-fold. First, its irritating effect upon the mucous surface, and second, its power of excitation upon the nervous system, and upon the alimentary canal, or intestinal tube. Its irritation of the mucous surfaces causes those surfaces to pour forth an abundant secretion, which is modified in its character by the speci-

fic nature of the medicine itself, or by the kind of action it induces in those surfaces, whilst by its reflex action upon the nerves of motion, as well as by other means, the same medicine may incite, and may modify (strengthen or weaken, as the case may be) the vermicular motion of the intestinal canal. This vermicular motion is no doubt the mechanical agency by means of which the contents of the tube is forced onwards in its passage, until at the outlet of the canal, it is at length evacuated from the system. Now, in the early stages of this complaint, cathartic medicines would no doubt produce this two-fold action. They would compel the mucous surfaces to eject an abundant amount of secretions into the intestinal tube. They would incite to action the nerves of motion by which these secretions would be rapidly passed along the tube, and expelled from the body. The poisonous drug, acting upon, irritating and inflaming these mucous surfaces, is at length overcome, drenched and driven out, together with the deluge of secretions it had itself excited and brought forth. Such in a healthy system, and such in a system not too much deranged, and the functions of which had not been too much weakened, would probably be the invariable effect of drastic medicines.

But such is not the invariable effects of medicine upon diseased systems. Experience has proved that it is altogether possible for the system to be in such a state that purgatives may be given in any quantity without producing their customary purgative effects. Indeed, the too frequent repetition of purgative medicines is always attended with one of the following results: either the stomach and bowels become weakened, so that slight causes, as a cold, some change in diet, or even fruits, and other ordinarily healthy food, produce cathartic effects, or the reverse occurs, purgatives cease to have their wonted power, large doses must be resorted to in order to move the system at all, and at length, either from want of power in the system or other cause, they cease to produce any evacuations however freely administered. Cases of this kind have not unfrequently come under my personal notice. I have seen strong men die after the most horribly excruciating anguish, the doctor declaring that he had given cathartic medicines enough to kill ten men, without any evacuation having been produced by all these doses, which had been administered under the perhaps mistaken notion, that it was indispensable to the life of the patient, to "*open the*

prima via.” Indeed, I do not think it is too much to assert, that a large portion of our dysenteries and diarrhœas, and other acute diseases, as also a much larger portion of our so called chronic diseases, are the results of drastic purgatives.

Now, either the frequent administration of drastic medicines, or some other cause, or some combination of causes, had, in this case, superinduced that condition of the system, in which it was impossible for purgative medicines to produce their customary effect. When such medicines were taken into the stomach, the mucous surface being already nearly destroyed, these irritating substances came in almost immediate contact with the serous membranes, the cavities became filled with a glutinous adhesive serous secretion, the propelling power of the stomach and of the whole intestinal canal was weakened, wherever the medicine exerted its effects, and all these doses of medicine only served to distend still further the parietes of the abdomen, without the possibility of their making any downward progress along the course of the intestinal tube. The obstacles in the way of the action of purgative medicines in this and similar cases might be better seen, could we pursue the course of action created in its passage, and witness the efforts of nature to rid itself of the offensive materials with which it is already overcome. The stomach makes a weakened but a spasmodic effort to pour its contents through the pyloric orifice, the duodenum presses it onward towards the intestinal tube, until it meets one of the balls or sybilla previously described. Against this obstruction so long as there is sufficient power in the organs and nerves of motion, or so long as the contractile force of the stomach and duodenum continue to be exerted, it is swayed backward and forward, in a vain endeavor to remove the obstruction, supported as it is by a bag of wind, which is again supported by another similar obstruction, and so on by at least a hundred distinct incarcerations of a similar character. The stomach has an effort to make far beyond its power, to force a passage through all these obstacles, through the long and tortuous windings of the intestinal tube, and it has no assistance. The cathartic itself has no dissolving power to act upon these masses of sybilla. The serous secretion with which the intestine is filled is rather glutinous than otherwise, and does not possess the dissolving power of mucous secretions. The intestine, which in a healthy state has itself a contractive force and a vermi-

cular motion, is now destitute of both, partly from its diseased condition, and partly because it is constantly distended with gas. There is, therefore, no possibility of action. The defences from without are perfectly impregnable. The stomach can never force a passage through all these obstructions, and stimulated to the effort it must succumb, and death must be the result.

Such has been the frequent, the too frequent consequence of the administration of cathartics; of a blind adherence by physicians to their favorite maxim, "open the *prima via*"; and such, reason, philosophy, the common sense of medicine, ought to teach all practitioners would be the invariable result, whenever the conditions are such as above described.

It is not necessary in this place to speak of the effects of such doses of drugs upon the system in general, of their direct prostrating effects, nor to explain that most cathartics, if retained in the system, or if not expelled in the evacuations, become themselves a direct cause of death. These facts are too well known to physicians to require comment.

Every cathartic contains in itself an active poisonous principle, which, if it be retained in the stomach until its entire action is developed, may prove as fatal as an over dose of arsenic. Of the manner in which these poisons exert their poisonous effects, until they result in a softening of the tissues of the stomach, of the brain, or of some of those central organs on which life is dependent, it is not my purpose at the present time to speak. Every well educated physician can carry out these reflections for himself, and it will not be difficult for him to perceive the dangers to which, in difficult cases, he subjects his patient, by the administration of cathartic medicines.

The next enquiry I would propose is in regard to the effects of homœopathic medicines. These medicines, when properly administered, act directly upon the diseased conditions. By getting up an action in many respects similar to that which nature is inducing, they aid nature in her efforts to cure. Their mission, therefore, is not to the healthy organs, to incite them to unnatural and perhaps to unavailing efforts, but to those organs and tissues which are under the influence of disease. These organs manifest the effects which the morbid influence has already produced upon the system, and by these effects the homœopath is guided in his selection of an

antagonistic remedy. He seeks not for a remedy antagonistic to the conditions which are now manifest, but antagonistic to the morbid agent that has produced those conditions, and of this antagonism he judges by the effects which the morbid agent has produced, as compared with the known pathogenetic effects of remedies, the nature of which has been carefully studied, and the disease producing influences which have been fully investigated and understood. Here, in the selection of his remedies, lies his principal advantage. His remedies are directed, not against the results produced, the lesions created, or the symptoms manifest, so that he selects his remedies on account of their antagonism to these results and lesions, but his remedies are selected because they are known to have produced similar results, lesions or symptoms, upon persons in health, to those which are observable in the case he has to treat, and consequently they are perceived to act on the same plane as the morbid agent, to incite the same organs, and may be expected to antagonize, not the symptoms or lesions, but the agent or influence by which those symptoms or lesions are produced.

The homœopathic and allopathic physicians might not inaptly be compared to the commanding generals of two armies, each laying siege to some important fortress. The allopathic practitioner acts on the principle of a general, who looking only at the slugs, balls and missiles of the enemy, as the direct cause of the destruction of his forces, directs all his energies against these mute and unconscious agents of destruction, and is engaged in ineffectual efforts to turn them aside, and direct them into other channels, or to resist their propulsive force, and arrest their progress, whilst the real enemy still remains securely entrenched behind the walls.

The homœopathist, on the contrary, might be compared to a general, who, as he looked upon these missiles of destruction, and considered their force, number and direction, carefully calculated, from these and other manifestations which in the progress of the siege he was enabled to discover, the strength of the enemy, who lay hidden beneath the entrenchments, and the nature of the force which might be most effective to dislodge and eventually to destroy him altogether. Engaging in no useless contest with the missiles of the enemy, but leaving them to pursue their course till their force is spent, he reserves his strength for the contest with the enemy himself, whose locale and power these missiles have enabled

him more accurately to discover, and consequently more directly to assail. So the true homœopathic physician regards each symptom as a missile thrown out by some concealed enemy, as a result produced by some abnormal action or agent, the exact nature and character of which is represented, and is discoverable only, in the totality of the symptoms, in the conditions produced, or which are being produced in the whole economy. These symptoms are to him a portraiture of the disease. They are what he sees, and consequently what he knows, of the conditions. They are the mirror which reflects back to him the exact image of the enemy he is about to assail, and over which he expects ultimately to triumph.

It will be seen, then, that in all these dangerous cases, homœopathic remedies, if wisely administered, and with due reference to all the conditions, cannot fail to be productive of benefit to the patient. I do not mean to assert that every homœopathic physician knows how to administer them, nor that the best informed physician will not sometimes err, nor that if correctly administered they will always cure, but I mean to say, and to say distinctly, that if correctly administered, they will always benefit. The laws of medication are as fixed and invariable as the laws of matter, and it is one of these laws that if you antagonize the disease you benefit the patient.

Homœopathic remedies, then, by antagonizing the disease in the totality of its manifestations, would have added strength and power to the vital force, and enabled it with more certainty and power to act in the expulsion of the offensive matters, as well as to aid in the restoration of health.

The following interesting article we take from The North American Homœopathic Journal, which we are truly glad to see revived under promising and most encouraging auspices—we trust no physician of our school will do himself so great an injustice as to suffer it to be absent from his study table—we want such books as this, books that will draw some of our body away from the *symptom lists* into the

broad fields of nature, science and art, over which our grand law, *similia similibus curantur*, leads every inquiry after truth.

FOOD, AND ITS ADULTERATIONS

IN the April number of the London Quarterly Review we find a very interesting paper upon the adulteration of food. The facts upon the subject are derived chiefly from the researches and analyses of Arthur Hill Hassall, M. D., chief analyst to the Sanatory Commission of London, from the years 1851 to 1854 inclusive.

These investigations demonstrate an amount of turpitude and indifference to human health, on the part of a majority of London grocers, butchers, and other dealers in the necessaries of life, which are truly astounding.

We advise all tea and coffee drinkers, and all *bon vivants*, to peruse the entire article, and then appreciate how God in his mercy, has spared them from paralysis, and other serious maladies.

We make the following quotations from the article alluded to :

"If we could possibly eliminate, from the mass of human disease, that occasioned by the constant use of deleterious food, we should find that it amounted to a very considerable per-centage on the whole, and that one of the best friends of the doctor would prove to be the adulterator. But even our refuge fails us in our hour of need; the tools of the medical man, like those of the sappers and miners before Sebastopol, often turn out to be worthless. Drugs and medical comforts are perhaps adulterated as extensively as any other article."

"When Catherine de Medicis wished to get rid of obnoxious persons in an "artistic" manner, she was in the habit of presenting them with delicately made sweetmeats, or trinkets, in which death lurked in the most engaging manner; she carried

"Pure death in an ear-ring, a casket,
A signet, a fan-mount, a filigree basket."

"Her poisoned feasts are matters of history, at which people shudder as they read; but we question if the diabolical revenge and cold-blooded wickedness of an Italian woman ever invented much more deadly trifles than our low, cheap confectioners do on the largest scale. We select from some of these articles of bonbonnerie the following feast, which we set before doting mothers, in order that they may see what deadly dainties are prepared for the especial delectation of their children:"—

For want of space we shall only quote the following as a sample.

"MIXED SUGAR ORNAMENTS,

"*Purchased in Middle Row, Holborn.*"

"The confectionery in this parcel is made up into a variety of

forms and devices, as hats, jugs, baskets, and dishes of fruit and vegetables. One of the hats is colored yellow with *Chromate of Lead*, and has a green hat-band round it colored with *Arsenite of Copper*: a second hat is white, with a blue hat-band, the pigment being *Prussian-Blue*. The baskets are colored yellow with *Chromate of Lead*. Into the coloring of the pears and peaches the usual non-metallic pigment, together with *Chromate of Lead* and *Middle Brunswick Green*, enter largely; while the carrots represented in a dish are colored throughout with a *Red Oxide of Lead*, and the tops with *Brunswick Green*. This is one of the worst of all the samples of colored sugar confectionery submitted to analysis, as it contains no less than *four deadly poisons*!"

"The painted feast contains then, among its highly injurious ingredients, ferro-cyanide of iron or Prussian-blue, Antwerp-blue, gamboge, and ultramarine, and among its deadly poisons the three chrome yellows, red lead, white lead, vermilion, the three Brunswick greens, and Scheele's green or arsenite of copper. The wonder is that, considering we set such poison-traps for children, ten times more enticing and quite as deadly as those used to bane rats, that the greater number of youngsters who partake of them are not at once dispatched, and so undoubtedly they would be, if nurses were not cautious about these colored parts, which have always enjoyed a bad name under the general denomination of 'trash and messes.' As it is, we are informed by Dr. Letherby that "no less than seventy cases of poisoning have been traced to this source, within three years!"

Our succeeding remarks will fall, we fear, like a bomb upon many a tea-table, and stagger teetotalism in its stronghold. A drunkard's stomach is sometimes exhibited at total-abstinence lectures, in every stage of congestion and inflammation, painted up to match the fervid eloquence of the lecturer. If tea is our only refuge from the frightful maladies entailed upon us by fermented liquors, we fear the British public is in a perplexing dilemma. Ladies, there is death in the teapot! Green tea drinkers, beware! There has always been a vague idea afloat in the public mind about hot copper plates—a suspicion that gunpowder and hyson do not come by their color honestly. The old Dutchess of Marlborough used to boast that she came into the world before 'nerves were in fashion.' We feel half inclined to believe this joke had a great truth in it; for since the introduction of tea, nervous complaints of all kinds have greatly increased; and we need not look far to find one at least of the causes in the teapot. There is no such a thing as pure green tea to be met with in England. It is adulterated in China; and we have lately learnt to adulterate it at home almost as well as the cunning Asiatic. The pure green tea made from the most delicate green leaves grown upon manured soil, such as the Chinese use themselves, is, it is true, wholly untainted; and we are informed that its beautiful bluish bloom, like

that upon a grape, is given by the third process of roasting which it undergoes. The enormous demand for a moderately-priced green tea which has arisen both in England and China since the opening of the trade, has led the Hong merchants to imitate this peculiar color; and this they do so successfully as to deceive the ordinary judges of the article. Black tea is openly colored in the neighborhood of Canton in the most wholesale manner.

Mr. Robert Fortune, in his very interesting work, "The Tea Districts of China and India," gives us a good description of the manner in which this coloring process is performed, as witnessed by himself.

"Having procured a portion of Prussian-blue, he threw it into a porcelain bowl, not unlike a chemist's mortar, and crushed it into a very fine powder. At the same time a quantity of gypsum was produced and burned in the charcoal fires which were then roasting the teas. The object of this was to soften it, in order that it might be readily pounded into a very fine powder, in the same manner as the Prussian-blue had been. The gypsum, having been taken out of the fire after a certain time had elapsed, readily crumbled down, and was reduced to powder in the mortar. These two substances, having been thus prepared, were then mixed together in the proportion of four parts of gypsum to three parts of Prussian-blue, and formed a light blue powder, which was then ready for use.

"This coloring matter was applied to the teas during the process of roasting. About five minutes before the tea was removed from the pans—the time being regulated by the burning of a joss-stick—the superintendent took a small porcelain spoon, and with it he scattered a portion of the coloring matter over the leaves in each pan. The workmen then turned the leaves round rapidly with both hands, in order that the color might be equally diffused. During this part of the operation the hands of the workmen were quite blue. I could not help thinking if any green-tea drinkers had been present during the operation their taste would have been corrected and I believe improved.

"One day an English gentleman in Shanghai, being in conversation with some Chinese from the green-tea country, asked them what reason they had for dyeing the tea, and whether it would not be better without undergoing this process. They acknowledged that tea was much better when prepared without having any such ingredients mixed with it, and that *they never drank dyed teas themselves*, but justly remarked, that, as foreigners seemed to prefer *having a mixture of Prussian-blue and gypsum with their tea* to make it look uniform and pretty, and as these ingredients were cheap enough, the Chinese had no objection to supply them, especially as such teas always fetched a higher price.

"I took some trouble to ascertain precisely the quantity of coloring matter used in the process of dyeing green teas, not certainly

with the view of assisting others, either at home or abroad, in the art of coloring, but simply to show green-tea drinkers in England, and more particularly in the United States of America, what *quantity* of Prussian-blue and gypsum they imbibe in the course of one year. To $14\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. were applied 8 mace $2\frac{1}{2}$ caudereens of coloring matter, or rather more than an ounce. To every hundred pounds of colored green tea consumed in England or America, the consumer actually drinks more than half a pound of Prussian-blue and gypsum. And yet, tell the drinkers of this colored tea that the Chinese eat cats and dogs, and they will hold up their hands in amazement and pity the poor Celestials."

If the better class of black and all green teas* are thus vilely adulterated, the reader may fancy that he can at least take refuge in coffee—alas! in too many cases he will only avoid Scylla to fall into Charybdis. Coffee, as generally sold in the metropolis and in all large towns, is adulterated even more than tea. The Treasury Minute, which allowed it to be mixed with chicory, is at the head and front of the offending. In the year 1840 this celebrated Minute was issued by the sanction of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir C. Wood, the immediate consequence of which was, that grocers began to mix it with pure coffee in very large quantities, quite forgetting to inform the public of the nature of the mixture, and neglecting at the same time to lower the price. The evil became so flagrant that upon the installation of the Derby administration, Mr. D'Israeli promised to rescind this license to adulterate; but before the promise was redeemed, the administration was rescinded itself. Mr. Gladstone, upon his acceptance of office, loth, it appears, to injure the chicory interest, modified the original Minute, but allowed the amalgamation to continue, provided the package was labelled "Mixture of Chicory and Coffee." It was speedily found, however, that this announcement became so confounded with other printing on the label that it was not easily distinguishable, and in consequence it was provided that the words "This is sold as a mixture of Chicory and Coffee," should be printed by themselves on one side of the canister. It may be asked what is the nature of this ingredient, that the right to mix it with coffee should be maintained by two Chancellors of the Exchequer during a period of fifteen years as jealously as though it were some important principle of our constitution? Chicory, to say the best of it, is an insipid root, totally destitute of any nourishing or refreshing quality, being utterly deficient in any nitrogenized principle, whilst there are strong doubts whether it is not absolutely hurtful to the nervous system. Professor Beer, the celebrated oculist of Vienna, forbids the use of it to his patients, considering it to be the cause of amaurotic blindness. Even supposing it to be perfectly harmless, we have a material of

* Assam tea is the only exception to this rule, but very little of it is imported.

the value of 8*d.* a pound, which the grocer is allowed to mix *ad libitum* with one worth 1*s.* 4*d.* If the poor get the benefit of the adulteration, there might be some excuse for permitting the admixture of chicory, but it is proved that the combination is sold in many shops at the same price as pure coffee. Analyses made by Dr. Hassall of upwards of a hundred different samples of coffee, purchased in all parts of the metropolis before the issuing of the order for the labelling of the packages "chicory and coffee," proved that, in a great number of cases, articles sold as "finest Mocha," "choice Jamaica coffee," "superb coffee," &c., contained, in some cases, very little coffee at all; in others "only a fifth, a third, half," &c., the rest being made up mainly of chicory.

Numerous analyses have been made of most of the articles of food and drink in common use, by Dr. Hassell, and in a large majority of instances, with results similar of the following :

A CUP OF TEA	or a	CUP OF COFFEE.
<i>In the Tea.</i>		<i>In the Coffee.</i>
If Green—		Chicory.
Prussian-blue.		<i>In the Chicory.</i>
Turmeric.		Roast wheat.
China clay or French chalk.		" acorn,
Used tea-leaves.		" mangold wurzel.
Copperas.		" beans.
If Black—		" carrots.
Gum.		" parsnips.
Black lead.		" lupin-seeds.
Dutch pink.		" dog-biscuit.
Used tea leaves.		" horse-chestnuts.
Leaves of the ash, sloe, haw-		Oxide of iron.
thorn, and of many other		Mahogany sawdust.
kinds.		Baked horse's liver.
<i>In the Milk.</i>		" bullock's liver.
On an average 25 per cent. of		<i>In the Milk.</i>
water,		Water 25 per cent.
Annatto.		Annatto.
Treacle.		Flour.
Flour.		Treacle.
Oxide of iron.		Oxide of iron.
And other unknown ingredients		And other unknown ingredients.
<i>In the Sugar.</i>		<i>In the Sugar.</i>
If Brown—		If Brown—
Wheat flour.		Wheat flour.
Hundreds of the sugar insect.		Hundreds of the sugar insect.
If White—		If White—
Albumen of bullock's blood.		Albumen of bullock's blood.

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — NOVEMBER, 1855. — No. VIII.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

LETTER FROM C. DUNHAM, M. D.

WILDBAD, SEPTEMBER 6, 1855.

A visit to Bönninghausen must be a matter of interest to every Homœopathic physican. He is the acknowledged master of *Materia Medica*, and one of the most acute and most uniformly successful practitioners of our school. Moreover, he was for thirty years the intimate personal friend of Hahnemann, and he is the only German physican with whom Hahnemann continued on friendly terms after his removal to Paris. Living in the little city of Münster in patriarchal simplicity, he is occupied during more than half of every day by office patients; his correspondence with patients in different parts of Europe, keeps him busy for several hours more, and every day he receives letters of consultation from various European physicans, while hardly a season passes without bringing him as a visitor some Homœopath, young or old, seeking instruction in Homœopathy, or advice for some specially difficult case of disease. It were difficult to imagine a more hospitable reception than he accords to all. I have found in the course of my journeyings, that many of the best Homœopaths of Europe are to a greater or less extent his pupils; and quite a number of the most brilliant discoveries and cures made in different countries by practitioners of our school were suggested by him in correspondence. For example, having had opportunity to see the letters on both sides, I may mention that the singular prescription of *sulphur* in *cholera*, made in 1854, by Dr Perousel of Nantes, was suggested by Bönninghausen. The cholera occurring in an unusual

form, Dr. Perousel not feeling sure of his ground, wrote to Bönninghausen for advice. The latter recommended *sulphur*, and so successful was this treatment that the French government awarded to Dr. Perousel a gold medal for his skilful practice.

Bönninghausen's practice is confined to his office. His method of proceeding is a model, and those who understand it will appreciate the value of those clinical remarks in which Bönninghausen's works and fugitive writings are peculiarly rich. Every case of disease is systematically described, and every prescription noted in a journal, which now extends from the year 1832, through 92 large octavo volumes. These and all his note books are placed entirely at the service of every physician who comes to him in search of knowledge. From the peculiar system adopted by him, the keeping of this journal involves no loss of time. He does not consider it necessary to record every symptom of which the patient may complain. It is enough to note those which are characteristic of the particular diseased condition under consideration, that is, those which point out unmistakably the remedy to be given; those symptoms which are in their turn the characteristic symptoms of this particular remedy, and belonging in their integrity, to no other. By confining himself to these, his description of the disease is very short, but at the same time it is very clear. It would be quite impossible for one conversant with *Materia Medica*, to read Bönninghausen's description of an ordinary case, and not see the necessity of giving just the remedy he gives, whereas, we can all remember reading in the periodicals whole pages of description, and being, at the end, utterly in the dark as to the author's reasons for giving what he gave.

The *advantages* of such a journal are obvious. Not only can one follow up the treatment of a case with greater exactness and certainty; when thus enabled to see, at any time a picture of the original state of the patient and his successive advances towards a cure; but clinical notes, thus exactly kept, furnish means of solving many problems in *Materia Medica*, which have hitherto vexed practitioners. It is by these means that Bönninghausen has been enabled to make so many discoveries in *Materia Medica*, and so greatly to increase the exactitude of our knowledge of remedies. If, for example, in any given history of disease one prominent symptom occur, which is not found under any remedy, he notes in a separate

book kept for the purpose, this symptom and the remedy given, with the result. In a few months, and perhaps not for years, he has opportunity to repeat the observation. Another note is added to the former. If the result of a number of these experiments concur, this symptom is noted with a mark of interrogation under the remedy which seemed to remove it. If subsequent experience confirm this supposition, he notes the fact as a clinical symptom in his repertory, for a subsequent edition. Thus he discovered the efficiency of *Staphysagria* in polypus nasi, of *Calcarea carb.* against tænia, and of *Kreasote* and *Sepia*, in diabetas mellitus, etc., etc. It is with this exactitude, trusting nothing to memory or to general impressions, that his investigations are made,—again, if he thinks he has remarked any peculiarity in the action of a remedy—as, for instance, that it produces certain symptoms not recorded in the proving, or that it acts rather on one side of the body than on the other, etc. This supposition is noted in his register, and if confirmed by subsequent observation, is recorded in its appropriate place. Finally where contradictory symptoms are found in a proving, and it is doubtful in which of the two series, lies the true indication for selection—and this is true of very many of our remedies, and here lies one of the practitioner's great difficulties—he follows the same method, until accumulated experiences, extending through years, show him the propriety of basing prescriptions upon one or the other of the contradictory groups. Here we see how those observations are made, which, as we meet them in his books, make us exclaim: "How does he know that?" "That is not found in the *Materia Medica*!" Or even, "That is contrary to the *Materia Medica*!" In these journals accumulate materials for special studies—works on special groups of disease, such as Bönninghausen has given us an example of, although imperfect, in his essay on Intermittent Fever, and such as he is now preparing for publication on *Epilepsy*. His journals contain records of more than six hundred cases of *Epilepsy*, of which, nearly three-fourths were cured. They are very rich too in cases of mental disease, which is very common in Westphalia.

Short and clear descriptions of disease, such as Bönninghausen endeavors to present in his journals, are by no means easily written. They involve a profound and accurate knowledge of *Materia Medica*; for how can we seize, with certainty, on those symptoms

in a patient's narrative, which are characteristic of the remedy to be given unless we are conversant with the characteristics of all remedies in the *Materia Medica*? Hence, such a knowledge of *Materia Medica* is the first *sine qua non* of the practitioner. Its necessity was seen by Bönninghausen at the beginning of his career, and he then began and has ever since continued a systematic study, following various methods at different times. The works he has published consist, for the most part, of notes made in the course of these studies.

In studying a remedy, as in prescribing, he pays greatest attention to the *characteristics* of the remedy—to those symptoms which distinguish a given remedy from all others. For in almost every proving, certain peculiarities are noticed, which, “like the scarlet thread in the cable of the English marine,” run through every group of symptoms and distinguish these groups from groups otherwise similar, produced by other drugs: and without a knowledge of these, it is impossible to prescribe with certainty. These peculiarities are found most frequently in the *conditions of time and circumstances of aggravation and amelioration*.

The various classes of symptoms recorded in a proving, have different degrees of importance, when viewed as indications for selections; but which of them are the more important, and which the less so, can be ascertained only by clinical experience. To solve these questions has been Bönninghausen's constant study, by the means before described. The varieties of *sensations*, he holds to be least important; whether absolutely so, or whether patients and physicians are equally unable to employ with precision, the abstract terms, by which we qualify them. For example, it matters little whether a pain described, as “pricking, piercing, sticking or digging; itching, stinging, scratching or gnawing; what one would express by one term, another would describe by another; certainty is impossible, and clinical experience shows it to be unnecessary. At least, we should never be induced to neglect other symptoms, by a desire to meet these with exactness. Only when a sensation is decided and unmistakable, like *decided burning*, should it be taken into great account. It is far more important that the *locality* of the *sensation* or phenomenon should agree in the patient's description and in the proving of the drug, and especially that it should occur in both, on *the same side of the body*. A vast number of

cases in Bönninghausen's journals show the necessity of this agreement. But on this point the *Materia Medica* is particularly meagre in its information. Hence, the necessity and the value of observations made on the plan before described, as pursued by Bönninghausen, and the results of which on this subject have been recently published by him in a little work, entitled, "*Die Körperseiten und Verwandschaften.*" To this matter he attaches great importance, and any careful practitioner may satisfy himself about it, by observing the relative action of *Calcarea* and *Sulphur*, for example, on the right and the left eye, in diseases of that organ.

But most important of all, in the selection of a remedy, is a correspondence of the conditions of *time*, *aggravation* and *amelioration*. These conditions are the most characteristic features of every proving, and hence, the most important for the purposes of individualisation.

From what has been said, follow certain peculiarities in Bönninghausen's treatment of periodical and paroxysmal diseases, in which his success is very great. In Intermittent Fever, for example, he pays but little attention to the paroxysm itself. The shock of chill and fever overshadows by its violence all characteristic peculiarities, and prevents any individualisation of the case. The symptom of the apyrexia, and especially the conditions of time and circumstance form the basis of the prescription. The period at which thirst occurs, and the character of the thirst are the only symptoms of paroxysm, which he has found important. Still more does the above hold true, with regard to Epilepsy the violent paroxysm, of which are nearly alike in all patients. In this disease, the conditions of the interval, and above all, the previous history of the patient furnish the necessary data, but these are often gained only by almost infinite labor on the part of the practitioner. A recent case of Epilepsy of two years standing, cured by a single dose of *Viola tricolor*, 200th, furnishes an example of this. The paroxysms occurred at night, several in the course of a week; there was nothing remarkable about them, nor about the interval; but on enquiry it appeared that the patient had formerly had *crusta lactea*, which had been driven in two years before by external applications, and the symptoms of which so far as remembered, indicated *Viola tricolor*. Bönninghausen has not figured largely in the literature of our school, yet his contributions have been of

greater value to us than those of any other writer, if we except perhaps our own Hering. Although a profound scholar he has not felt called upon to write an organon or indeed any theoretical work; but his labors have always had a practical end; his aim has been to subserve the needs of the practising physician. Hence the difficulties of our method have been his constant study. Many of our provings are uncertain guides—with the pure effects of the drugs are mingled the secondary and alternate effects in a way most apt to puzzle the prescriber. In the manner I have described, he has investigated this matter and embodied the results in his Repertory Taschenbuck. Again, every proving consists of a great collection of symptoms, very many of which are common to the whole Materia Medica. In the great mass of these, the characteristic symptoms, the real gems of the proving, are overwhelmed and well nigh lost. To discover and bring these up to view is the practitioners' and students' great difficulty, bemoaned for thirty years past in every periodical. Yet Bönninghausen is almost the only one who has ever applied himself to the task of collecting and collating these characteristics. His little work on this subject although not recent, is still of great value to the student. It is a misfortune for our American students that our translators selected the elementary works of Jahr in preference to Bönninghausen.

Bönninghausen's Repertory, the first that appeared, although faulty in its division into two parts, is yet the best we have. It was the only one used by Hahnemann, and Mad. Hahnemann has assured me that he regarded it as indispensable. Certain peculiarities of this work and the "Pocket Book," require explanation. The Repertory is not a mere compilation from the Materia Medica. It contains also many original observations made as before explained. Hence the critics are right in complaining that many things in these books are not to be found in the original provings. But it is the very richness of the work with which they find fault—for the manner in which these original observations were made is a guarantee of their accuracy. Again, it is said that the *conditions* of each symptom should follow the symptom itself, instead of being placed in a separate chapter. But this would involve a vast amount of repetition, and would be making of the Repertory a small Materia Medica—and the book would then be open to many of the objections which apply to Jahr's Repertory. It would be too large and clumsy

for a Repertory. It would not save time, nor be more accurate than at present.

For it must be remembered that no Repertory can be a substitute for the *Materia Medica*, nor can it enable the practitioner to dispense with diligent study of the latter.

As before remarked, Bönninghausen is now engaged in a treatise on the cure of epilepsy. It is greatly to be desired that he should publish a new edition of his Repertory. Many as have been the attempts to supply our need in this regard, we are still without a respectably good repertory, Bönninghausen's excepted. Jahr's is laboriously compiled, but the plan is a bad one; the work is cumbersome, and the groups of symptoms are so cut up that a proper selection, by means of it, is almost impossible. Moreover, the author, *never was a practising* Homœopathic physician, and lacking therefore the important guide of clinical experience, has industriously gathered from Homœopathic literature the chaff with the wheat; this work affords us many false lights as beacons. We have long and anxiously awaited a Repertory from our Hering; but no sign comes. Bönninghausen has materials at hand for a third edition of his work, this would be freed from the fault of previous editions and enriched by a mass of unspeakably rich experiences, accumulated during twenty years of constant practice—materials which if he do not employ them will be valueless. It is possible that a memorial from America might stimulate him to the work.

As to the dose, since 1842, Bönninghausen has given the 200th potency, prepared after Hahnemann's method by the apothecary Lehrmann of Schöningen. At first he gave this potency occasionally, then more frequently, as experience gave him confidence, and for the last eight years he has given almost no other potency. The effects of these doses are undeniable. There they stand on his journals in black and white—and though one or two of his cases may be open to question, yet in *fifty octavo volumes* there must be *many* indisputable cures. Their effects are testified to by the many patients of Bönninghausen in all parts of Europe, and I have myself experienced them in a remarkable manner. During six weeks, I spent the greater part of each day in his office, observing every patient and noting every prescription and its effects. It has never been my fortune to see good results follow any treatment *so quickly*

and so uniformly, and that too, in diseases the most deeply rooted, and the least amenable to ordinary treatment.

At the same time, Bönninghausen does not hold himself exclusively to the 200th or to the high potencies. He is of opinion that cases not unfrequently occur in which a remedy clearly indicated will act only when given in a certain potency which may be high or may be very low. Dr. Chapman, of London, a very keen observer, makes a similar remark, furnishing striking illustrations of it from his own practice, and an epidemic of dysentery is still remembered in Brooklyn in which Dr. Wells found that *Nux vomica*, the remedy required, had no effect when given in the mother tincture, low or medium potencies, but proved immediately curative in the highest potencies, so that after this discovery a single dose of the 400th sufficed for every case. In this fact we may find an explanation of the discrepancies of testimony on the subject of *Thuja* in small-pox. Bönninghausen has perscribed in many cases of small pox, *Thuja* 200, with remarkably good effect. Mr. Wilson tried it in London Hahnemann Hospital with equally good results. Hering has made the same remark. I have myself seen its favorable action. On the other hand Wurmb of the Vienna Homœopathic Hospital tried *Thuja* in 15 cases without any good result—but as he could not bring himself to give the 200th he tried the 15th decimal dilution. Undoubtedly it is far from scientific to assume *a priori* that the potency is a matter of no consequence. This may be just one of those cases in which the potency is of the greatest moment. When a scientific man undertakes to imitate the experiment of another for the purpose of testing the results of the latter, he is inexcusable if he deviate in the least particular from the course pursued by his predecessor. He has no right to assume that in this or that point lies the essential principle, and that the other matters are superfluous. What would be thought of a chemist, who, wishing to repeat the experiment of another, and obtain a certain precipitate, should take it for granted that it matters not how much *ammonia*, for example, he may add to a given solution. Whereas, a certain quantity will give the precipitate, but an excess will re-dissolve it, and spoil the experiment.*

* Mr. Leadam, of London, therefore, made perhaps a mischievous error, when in his work on "Diseases of Women and Children," he quoted Bönninghausen as recommending *Thuja* 30, instead of 200, for Small-pox.

Of still greater importance than the choice of the potency, Bönninghausen considers the rule that the dose is not to be repeated until the effects of the former dose have entirely ceased. On this rule, he thinks too much stress cannot be laid. Examples of ill effects resulting from breaches of it are to be found scattered through his Journal, for "Homer sometimes nods." It is no uncommon thing for him to give nothing in chronic diseases for months after a dose of some long acting one, the patient improving all the while.

Some writers have endeavored to establish fallacies in Bönninghausen's testimony on the subject of the potency. They say that, his practice being entirely an office practice, he cannot observe his patients, and fancies them cured, when in truth they have only become tired of the treatment. This is childish. No case is recorded as cured, unless the patient present himself and give good evidence of being cured. His journals are conscientiously kept, although now and then an error might occur, still the mass of his reported cures cannot be called into question. For myself, personal observation has satisfied me. It has been said, also, that Bönninghausen, not having been educated for the medical profession, is ignorant, and makes mistakes in diagnosis, and hence his reports are not reliable. Who does not make occasional, even frequent errors in diagnosis? Certainly, whether he studied in youth, or in middle age, when his faculties were more mature, I have never conversed with a medical man more learned. But the most ignorant could scarcely mistake Intermittent Fever, Mania, Epilepsy, or the thousand and one inveterate skin diseases, for the cure of all of which Bönninghausen is so justly famous. And if he have cured these with the 200th, let him make whatever other errors you please, he has shown that the high potencies act. Finally, critics say, these potencies may do in chronic diseases, but they will not act in acute ones. This is answered by the brilliant results of the practice of the younger Dr. Bönninghausen, who graduated with honor about three years ago at the University of Berlin, the very shrine of Allopathy—and learned in all the learning of the old school, this accomplished and able young man applied himself diligently, under his father's guidance, to the study of Homœopathy, and established himself a year ago about twenty miles from Münster. It was my good fortune to meet him, and hear from his own lips an account of his success. He has given generally the 200th, treating all sorts

of cases, acute and chronic, such as occur in a general country practice. He has had one hundred and forty-seven cases of Typhus, which in Westphalia is a grave form of Typhus Cerebralis, much like the British ship-fever, and very fatal. The average duration of these cases was fourteen days. He gave only the 200th, and lost, of the one hundred and forty-seven, only one case, a consumptive man. He generally repeated the dose once in twelve hours. Of Intermittent fever, he has treated sixty cases, curing all but two by the first dose. A remarkable case of hemiplegia of three years standing, in a child of eight years, was cured by a *single dose of calc. carb.* 200, the cure requiring three months. Of this case I heard in Münster before seeing Dr. B. He has just acceded to a numerously signed memorial from the inhabitants of Rotterdam, and goes to establish himself in that city, where I doubt not a brilliant career awaits him. In conclusion of this subject of the potencies, a question about which so many well authenticated facts are met by so many *à priori* objections, while on the other hand, those who maintain their efficacy are so apt to deny the propriety or necessity of ever resorting to the lower or very low potencies. I cannot do better than relate an anecdote, which was told me in nearly the same words by both the parties concerned.

A young Allopathic physician, full of zeal against Homœopathy, chancing to come to Münster to spend a week or two, was induced by his friends to call upon Bönninghausen. He began immediately to offer objections to the theory and the use of Homœopathy. But said Bönninghausen to him "In a matter which is purely experimental as Homœopathy is, it is very unwise to begin by offering *a priori* objections, come to my office every day, and observe the effects of my treatment. If the remedies produce *no* effects, then there will be no need of objections.—If on the other hand, you become convinced that they are effective, that will be the proper time to talk over your objections." The young man assented, came daily and observed attentively. After the lapse of a fortnight, Bönninghausen said to him: "Now let us talk of those objections you have to Homœopathy," "Oh" he replied "I have no longer any. I have seen effects from your remedies which I could never hope to produce with mine. Teach me your method, and I will become a Homœopathist." This young physician is now one of the best and most celebrated Homœopaths in Northern Germany. The moral is clear.

C. D.

MESSRS. EDITORS :

IN your issue for August, 1855, a brief notice of the yellow fever in Virginia, contains the following sentence: "It will be recollected that Dr. Barton of Charleston, Dr. Leon of New Orleans, and Dr. Holcombe of Natchez, have severally served the cause of humanity in warring against this dreadful scourge, and with such signal success as to leave but little doubt as to the favorable result of Homœopathic treatment."

Now, gentlemen, I, as one of those whose names have received this honorable mention, would warmly but politely protest against the undue prominence accorded to us over our many zealous and efficient colleagues in the practice of Homœopathy. Why have you overlooked Dr. Davis, of Natchez, Drs. Taft, Vail, Belden, Cartier, Olephant, and others, of New Orleans, Drs. Brown, Angell, and the lamented Bryant, of Galveston, the physicians of Mobile, Jackson and Savannah, of the West Indies, and of Rio Janeiro? Scores of talented and noble men have struggled in behalf of our principles in these and other places. They have had to contend, not only with fierce diseases of the tropics, but with worse enemies, the ignorance and malice of medical opponents, and the almost inflexible prejudices of public opinion. These gentlemen also have "served the cause of humanity with signal success," and many of them deserve, what the gallant Col. Butler asked of his commanding general for the invincible Palmetto Regiment, viz.: "a front place in the picture."

But I am especially sorry to see my name connected with the curative success of Homœopathy in Natchez and its vicinity, to the exclusion of that of Dr. F. A. W. Davis. That gentleman is pre-eminently the homœopathic leader in the South-West. For more than 20 years he has commanded the largest practice, and enjoyed the most enviable reputation, in probably the most intelligent and the wealthiest community in this part of the United States. No man of his professional maturity, his independent fortune, and his high social position, has ever labored more assiduously, or suffered more disinterestedly in an unappreciated and unpopular cause. He has driven a wedge, strong as the Macedonian phalanx, into the Allopathic lines, and we who follow in his wake and reap the easy victory, should give him both credit and gratitude for his courage, industry and skill. He has made Homœopathy the dominant system

in this city and neighborhood. He has caused it to radiate into many of the towns, villages and plantations in Mississippi and Louisiana. His influence procured our appointment as physicians to the Mississippi State Hospital. He instituted and tested by an experience twice or thrice as great as my own, the treatment which was so triumphantly successful in 1853, and which is proving itself just as valuable in our present epidemic. If he were not my kindest and most valued friend, this voluntary tribute to his talents and services would be a simple rendition unto Cæsar of the things which are Cæsar's.

I am sure you *intended* no injustice to Dr. Davis, and will lay these facts with pleasure before your readers.

Yours, most respectfully,

WM. H. HOLCOMBE.

Natchez, Miss.

A REVIEWER REVIEWED.

BY C. PRETSCH, M. D.

War einst ein Riese Goliath,
Ein gar gefährlich Mann,
Der hatte einen Tressenhut
Und einen klunker dran.

* * * * *

Und Knochen hat er, wie ein Gaul,
Und eine freche Stirn.
Auch ein gewaltig grosses Maul,
Doch—nur ein kleines Hirn.

German Song.

Frequent, as have been the cries after cleaning our *Materia Medica* and literature of all the chaff that has been accumulated together with the wheat, and many, as have been the attempts to accomplish this desirable object, we were still in want of a Hercules, who would be equal to the laborious task of cleaning and scrubbing, whitewashing and fencing in the homœopathic practice of medicine.

Diis gratias! We have found the right man at last. But as everything must have a beginning and as every beginning is generally small, we must not be astonished to find our Hercules shooting

away with all his might at a small book and turning up his nose at its bad english. Probably after having demolished this little work—the Homœopathist of 1835—and after having prostrated Dr. Herring alongside of it, he will direct his formidable batteries against some more important work, provided he has not wasted all his ammunition in the first bombardment.

As important as it may appear to our Hercules to assail a book which, at the present time hardly ever is mentioned among “Our literature,” it might seem more prudent to others to let such books rest in peace. Twenty years ago Homœopathy was a mere child and, like children, cutting up many foolish capers, but with all its childishness it was certainly more lovable than now, when it seems to have reached that age, which in german, is designated by the term: “*Flegeljahre*,” or the age of Rowdyism and Loaferdom, and as much as we might wish to pass over in silence the foolish actions of childhood, still we have to submit in good grace to any plan of attack our Gladiator may see fit to adopt, for if we are to have fights now irrevocably, we must lay our fortunes into the hands of men whose strength lays in their fists rather than in their arguments.

Is there anybody, who would venture to say, that our newly discovered Hercules is not the man for the occasion exactly? Is there anybody who would deny that the fists of our hero, together with his immeasurable wit is amply sufficient to kill off such ignoramusses as Dr. C. Herring, etc? True, our hero seems to know more about Ovidius and Julius Cæsar, than about Homœopathy; but what of that?—a critic need not know anything at all, if he only be possessed of a sharp tongue; true, our hero talks more latin, than medicine; but what of that?—does not he, kind soul! give us the accurate translation of it also?

Most undoubtedly, we have found the man, the Hercules, who will be able to lick any homœopathic physician betwixt this and the moon. Therefore, my dear Hercules, I bid you good speed! Fight on, cut away, shoot away and—babble away till nothing is left on the battle field but that pair of long ears which at present adorns your mighty head.

But, to be serious for a while, let us inquire once into the scientific accomplishment of our hero, who blows his trumpet so lustily, as if he intended to blow down the walls of Jericho.

At tuba terribili sonitu teratantera dixit. Yes, we have heard the trumpet and we would like to get acquainted with the trumpeter. Let us see. Has he ever produced anything towards the advancement of medical science? No. Has he ever proved any medicines? No. Has he ever performed any miraculous cure? Not that I know of. Is he a physician of long experience and large practice? Probably not. All we can learn about him is this:

In the year of our Lord 1855, there graduated at the Philadelphia College of Homœopathy a certain John Fitzgibbon Geary. (Vide Phila. Journ. of Homœo., Vol III., No. 12.) That's all. Now in the name of common sense, has a man who has hardly mastered the rudiments of medical science any right, to set himself up as a critic of any homœopathic physician. How great must be his arrogance when he undertakes to criticise Drs. Hering and A. Lippe, the ink of his diploma scarcely being dry yet? Like a *Deus ex machina* he rushes in and shakes his mighty fists at those, who have, hitherto, been numbered among the first and most zealous laborers in our cause. Why, will such a medical dwarf really make us believe, that he himself is the mother tincture of wisdom and that Dr. Hering and all that have admired this pionier of Homœopathy in America are unbounded fools? Well, he may try to do it, if he can, but it is greatly to be feared, that his most learned expectorations will be looked upon rather as the attempt of a schoolmaster criticising a doctor and that they will be treated accordingly.

After we have forced our way through that tremendous array of words, interspersed with some artillery taken from english and latin authors, which characterises the literary productions of Dr. Geary, we are forcibly reminded of what?—Why, that Mr. Review must be a middling good english scholar, that he writes very verbose articles, that he also knows some latin, in short, that he would make a tolerable good schoolmaster. But whatever we may think of his vanity in showing off this part of his learning in a *medical Journal*, we are not less surprised at his unexampled modesty, that induces him to hide his medical knowledge under a bushel. In fact, this phenomenon is so extraordinary, that one is almost inclined to believe, his medical learning might not be worth a farthing after all.

The Lord be praised, however, for the schoolmaster in Allentown, that was abroad in 1835, has been found at last, and now, if any

German or Frenchman or any other man is hereafter impudent enough to poke his bad english into "Our Litterature," Mr. Critic, like a modern Cerberus, will show him the teeth most wickedly.

"Our litterature!" Wonder, what Mr. Review means by this term! Is it to designate real genuine native american homœopathic litterature or everything german, french and english, that has been published about Homœopathy? In the first case, how many genuine american works would remain, if we were to subtract all that have been written and printed in other countries; how many, moreover, would remain, if we were to subtract those, that have been written and published by foreigners in this country? In the second case, how can it be helped, that some german and french works have been badly translated, when even the english translators had to be chosen from the ranks of german or french Homœopathists? Is a book, which has been translated badly into english, or a book which has been written in bad english for this simple reason to be pronounced trash and to be thrown among the rubbish?

It is furthermore very doubtfull, whether a book like the Allentown Homœopathist of 1835, written as it was merely for the use of the laity, not for physicians, can be properly classed among "Our litterature." If, however, a homœopathic physician like Dr. Geary choses to improve his stock of medical knowledge by such a book, is Dr. Hering or anybody else to be blamed if his tender nerves are shocked by the barbarous english contained in it? It was, however, not the bad english alone, which staggered Dr. Geary; no, worse than that, whilst looking in the Allentown Homœopathist of 1835 for some important information in some important case, he found a *number* instead of a *medicine*. Horribile dictu! What a capital crime! What a high treason against the Majesty of Science! (Dr. Geary representing the Majesty, of course.) It has been, it is true customary in Mathematics to give letters for numbers, but this innovation of giving numbers for letters is horrible indeed. No wonder, that, thus one is groping eternally in the dark and the mind in vain looks out for some ray of light as to what these ever occurring figures signify—a state of mind that would at once be relieved by simply giving the names of a *medicine*."

Poor Doctor! his state of mind must have been awful indeed and his pocket book most shockingly lean, if he could not think of buying nor could afford to buy a later edition of the very same

Homœopathist, provided a domestic physician is necessary at all to a successful practice.

I have not the least intention to vindicate everything that is contained in the book just mentioned. Suppose it contains a good many things which no physician at the present time would admit as truly scientific, is this not the case with any work, published 20 years ago on any scientific subject and especially on any branch of medical science? After the lapse of 20 years we may well look back with satisfaction and joy at the progress we have made and if many things have been formerly written and published, which we cannot now acknowledge as truly scientific, let us rejoice that we have improved guided by the experience of the past, but let us never suffer a tyro in Homœopathy to assail one of our veterans who fought manfully and almost singlehanded for our practice and came off victorious. Such a proceeding to say the least, shows very little modesty, but a great deal of arrogance and impudence and ought to be resisted by all means.

If Dr. Geary has such a burning desire to play the Critic, let him try his wit on some recent work, but let him never forget, that, if he cannot give us anything better, he might just as well leave criticising alone and apply his time to the study of some domestic physician, for

Quod licet Jovi, non licet bovi.

[The above is a true verbatim ad literatim copy of the manuscript sent us by the doctor. The handwriting is perfectly distinct and legible.—Eds.]

A LETTER TO DR. C. PRETSCH.

“Oon udheen humho toom jano.

Toom oonkee rusreet lukhee hue,

Unchit humen oorano ano

Oon jo kuhe hwe kuhiut hue,

Na mooi puhoonch uor pud sano.”—*Hindoo Poem.*

VIDE Ps. No. 1.

DEAR PRETSCH:—

Through the kindly feelings and respect which the editors and publishers entertain for you, I have been put in possession of your article in reply to Dr. Geary, or rather in castigation of that bold and presumptuous “Hercules,” as you justly style him, which I

have given above “*verbatim ad literatim*,” without the omission of a point or letter, or one added thereto. I shall place the manuscript, framed and glazed, for the next six or twelve months, at the publishers, for the inspection of all the members of the profession, as well as of the public generally, as an object which they will “look up to” with much curiosity. After which I shall transfer it to my cabinet of literary wonders. But, my dear Curt, I forgot that we are not *personally acquainted*, and I dare say you are wondering who I am; well then, I am a *very great friend of yours*, as you shall see anon, and have even been conferring favors on you in private, for some time past, like

“Those who do good by stealth,
And blush to find it fame.”

For instance, a late article of yours was placed in my hands, through the same kindness referred to above, of which, though I could make neither science nor sense, I did make correct spelling, and “passable” English. I cannot say I made it *very good* style or diction, these require the *touches of the master-hand*, and must begin at the foundation; however, I did what I could.—It is, you know, that article on “Electricity,” in the August number of this Journal. This you will perceive to be true, from the fact of my taking *no such liberty* with your present communication; it stands out in all its *original* beauty; so that you see I have been your *friend* up to this time, and indeed, I shall prove friendly still. Yet you do not know me *personally*!—Now, as we cannot have a *private, personal interview*, I must only say that I am the mutual friend of Dr. Geary and yourself, though that does not prevent me from seeing his *faults* and your *virtues*. And indeed, it is this very thing that has urged me to open a direct correspondence with you. I know him to be a rather dangerous fellow, with pen, ink and paper before him. I have been of great use to him in many ways, and now I may be called something like a safety-valve, to shut off his contempt and indignation, allowing only room for words of calm irony and good natured ridicule to escape from him. *Pity* and *charity* restraining both his scorn and his pride. Therefore, my dear boy, I am really sorry you have meddled with him, and have taken this method of giving you a few words of quiet caution. I feel a good deal for you, knowing that you wish “the cause” well, and that

you were clearly pushed into this trap by some of the "party" here, who from the first have kept themselves in the back-ground, and pulled the wires, or rather have clapped their hands and set on every cur that would bark at their "go at him, good dogs." And now, as their city pack is pretty well used up, and sick enough of the chase, and indeed some of them most effectually muzzled for the future, I see they have whistled you up, poor fellow, from your quiet retreat and *electricity bottle*, in Hollidaysburgh, to set up a fresh barking at Dr. Geary. Without consideration or pity for the consequences, they have set you upon a man, who, if he could get hold of this article of yours when he is in a merry mood, might use it as "bad boys" do an old broken tin can, which they tie to a dog's tail, and set him off, till the unfortunate wretch runs himself blind or rabid, and so drive you stark mad, through the mountains of Pennsylvania. You may therefore bless your stars that it has fallen into my hands, who, as your friend, will now expostulate with you on the folly of attacking this incorrigible man, and on the very serious injury you are likely to do to the *German cause* by this, your "defence" of Drs. Lippe and Herring, who ought to have made their own, like men, if they have any to make, and not shove you into the breach. You know, my dear lad,—I suppose you are *very young*,—that self-preservation is the first law of nature, and that when men like Dr. Geary are to be encountered, our motto should be, "*let every man mind his own medicine case.*" And now, as to the probability of your article having the desired effect upon him for whom you intended it, on the profession, and on the public, I think it very unlikely indeed, and fear that in his hands it might be made a dangerous weapon against yourself and the "party." Let us take it on its merits, for instance, and with the most friendly and forbearing indulgence look at all its points, and learn from this investigation what the author of *those three articles* in the late numbers of the Journal would be likely to make of it, if it had the ill luck to fall into his hands. I know you will take all in good part *from me*, who have already proved myself so much your friend, by preventing you from being made a laughing-stock to the community long before; who, harsh souls that they are, would clap their hands and open their eyes saying, "*if that ain't a doctor as can't spell easy words right!*" And to begin from the beginning, I think your motto, the quotation from a "German

song," in bad taste, and fairly calculated to give Geary an opportunity to deal you a hard rap on the nuckles, for you assume the position of a scholar, by quoting Latin, and giving your opinion as to the exact character, quality, and amount of another man's scholarship, a delicate position, if every one could see that he is indeed an educated man, in the *true*, not in the common school sense, of the words. Men taking this ground, should always quote from an *ancient* and *universal* language; I mean a language known everywhere among scholars, (such as Greek or Latin,) and this you know the German, though a fine *old modern* language, is not; and consequently, no man's scholarship would be said to be at fault for pleading ignorance of your quotation. It therefore falls to the ground, and gives the doctor and his friends the advantage; for, though it may beat about the head of your victim like *another Goliath*, he and his party, not understanding or feeling its force, are scathless. And moreover, if he had a mind to turn the tables upon you by just giving a motto as I have done, from the *Hindoo*, such as *may cut even deeper* than yours, with a translation in a postscript, he gains the point, and instead of a conquering giant, you sink to a powerless pigmy in his grasp. I am sorry, my boy, but so it is. Then should he turn to your *orthography*, an accomplishment for which no praise is ever given, but the want of which is disgraceful, inasmuch as no properly educated person could make very serious mistakes in it—why, he finds you spelling the commonest words badly, and that so often, and even with *the words before you* in his review, that he would conclude you must either be a stupid school boy, or a silly and impertinent old man, presuming to push yourself forward as a critic, without a knowledge of even your alphabet. Why, my dear fellow, you spell the word *literature* wrong no less than *six* times, that is every time you use it—look at your article,—and as you are, you know, a *good classic*, for you quote *very fluently and freely*, it makes the matter worse, for this very word is almost pure Latin. You also make a blunder in the word "ignoramus,"—but this, perhaps, is natural,—besides, "teratantara," "pioneer," "characterizes," and "doubtful," are all badly spelled,—twelve mistakes, and in every-day words too, except that *high-sounding* Latin one, that rather spoils the music of your "trumpet!" For a long vowel made short, or a wrong one inserted, in a Latin word, like a similar violation of a musical note, makes sad

havoc, you know. Really, dear Curt, this brings the blush of shame to my temples, when I think what “nuts to crack” they would be for our merciless antagonist, who, according to your own admission, can play the “school-master” so well. And these pedagogues, when they are dubbed doctors, sneer so at many of us who have been engaged in the more laudable and intellectual callings of *mending old shoes, chopping wood*, and making coarse garments as *indifferent tailors*, when we are admitted “to the ranks of the faculty.” Let me implore of you my dear friend, to attend the “night school” in connection with your excellent common school in Hollidaysburgh, this winter, it will be of immense advantage to our cause *next year*, if we should need your services, as doubtless we shall. And I am not quite sure, after all, that these Yankees will continue to like “doctors” who are not able to spell, write, or speak correctly, as well as those who can; for, between you and me, if it should come out before the public, that we have been imposing on them so long, in spite of all their apparent shrewdness, as *learned physicians*, the tide may be turned against us. The boldest gamblers, you know, fail at last;—and like him, described in the words,

“Malus quum Suter, inopia deperditus,
Medicinam ignoto facere cœpisset loco:”—VIDE Ps. No. 2.

the most daring charlatans are brought to the test by the *majesty of common sense and public opinion*, who with becoming indignation, may, like the “king of the country,” read the humiliating lesson to the people,

“Quantæ putatis esse vos dementiæ,
Qui capita vestra non dubitatis credere,
Cui calceandos nemo commisit pedes?”—Ps. No. 3.

So that it is my opinion we might as well prepare ourselves a little better for the alternative, lest the horrible tenets of Geary may gain converts, and the people may get the notion into their heads by degrees, that the rudest elements of a common education are necessary for those to whom they commit their lives and the lives of their children. And, indeed, I begin to hear reports that a large number of the most respectable members of our school in this city are already tainted with this miserable innovation upon the rights of the “German doctors,” that is, *the right to be and remain disgracefully ignorant, and trample under foot every one who dares to question their privilege.*

But I pass on, why do you use *small* letters always where the school children are taught to use "capitals?" Is it on purpose to vex Geary? No, this cannot be, since you meant "to kill him stone dead" in the eyes of the public with this article. See how queer it looks to see "english," "french," "german," all with small letters! Tell the master of the night-school I bade him watch you with great care in these *little matters*; for, after all, they are *small, mere trifles*, and you will excuse me for mentioning them, for I am sure you are "an elegant doctor," it is so much easier to master the great, difficult, complicated and numerous facts of medicine and science, than such things as knowing how to spell little words, and how to put the right letter in the right place. And this fact being clear, it follows that when one *cannot* do the small things, it is an incontrovertible proof *that he can do the great*. This you know, dear Curt, is a peculiar idiosyncrasy of the "German mind," quite beyond the capacity of these half instructed English and Americans. Your *punctuation*, too, is all bad, look to this; for though a point is defined, as "that which hath no parts or magnitude" (in mathematics only) still in directing our German arrows against such a fellow as Geary, it might be of consequence to know how to punctuate.

For example, suppose one were to say—

"What do you think?
*I'll shave you for nothing,
 With paper and ink."*

And another to expostulate—

"What! do you think
 I'll shave you for nothing
 And give you some drink?"

The first may be figuratively applied to Dr. Geary, dealing with this article of yours, had I suffered him to get hold of it. And the other to the literal fact of yourself holding a friendly controversy with the barber of Hollidaysburgh: or again—

"Go get thee gone thou blustering blundering blockhead."

Now the above is all wrong, like all of yours, and should be written—

"Go, get thee gone, thou blustering, blundering blockhead!"

You won't expect me to *point out* all your mistakes in this department; the *very first comma is misplaced*. Then you do not know how or where to put in your quotation marks; this makes much of Geary's "thunder," which you might be charged with stealing, appear as your own, but you being *so good* a scholar, and *so original* a genius, would not condescend to plagiarism? But if your friend the Reviewer should find this out, he would at once say, "ah! doctor, you are making free with my goods to enrich yourself, and still finding fault with the materials." Your choice of expressions, grammar and rhetoric, are seriously at fault also. But you do not value these things, I know, neither do I; *perhaps*, we might with a good grace, leave them to such fellows as Geary, "whose medical learning might not be worth a farthing," for every one knows that ignorance and "*medical learning*" with us are twins—*Siamese twins*, in fact, the sole heirs of some of us, Germans, whom hunger and impudence—this is between ourselves—have made *accomplished* "doctors." But still, we must not appear to be behind the age, as I said before, and you know it is much better that I should point out all these things than that our enemy should have the satisfaction of gloating over them. You say "the cries *after* cleaning our Materia Medica," &c.,—"cries *after* cleaning," is rather queer English, is it not Curt?—"together" in the same sentence is superfluous, and a few lines on you talk of "*cleaning*, and *scrubbing*, *white-washing* and *fencing in*," &c. These expressions are chosen with great want of taste, and Geary might surmise from them that your associations and language proved your habits to have been formed *among menials*, engaged in these low occupations; but I, of course, know better; are you not a "German *nobleman* in exile, with "*a bar-sinister*" in your escutcheon?" or am I mistaken? No doubt you move among the "first families" in Hollidaysburgh, at least. Then your Rhetoric is at fault, too, for you make Homœopathy a filthy kitchen,—which in your hands may be an appropriate name—and a piece of waste land at the same time; for a kitchen *is not* said to be "*fenced in*," but a piece of land may. You make Geary a "*dwarf*" and a "*mother tincture*" in the same breath in another place; and speak of him "*blowing down the walls of Jericho*," which *were blown down* long ago by the rams' horns of the Jewish leader; but according to your Rhetoric, we may say—

"Sooth'd with the sound," *Poor Pretsch* "grew vain,"
 "Fought all his battles o'er again :
 And thrice he routed all his foes, and thrice he slew the slain."

I am sorry you have forgotten the advice of Horace,—which you know by heart, judging from your quotations,—

"Denique sit quod vis simplex duntaxat et unum?"

Another of your gems is, "*if we are to have fights, now irrevocably, we must lay our fortunes into the hands of men whose strength lays in their fists.*" Oh! friend Pretsch, you make but a "poor fist" of writing; if you are no better at the symptoms and globules, God help your patients!

We never talk of *fights* being "*irrevocable*," we say, "we shall have" *constant fights*, or *interminable fights*, or *ceaseless fights*, or *every-day fights*, &c., &c., &c., but we say a decree, or a judgment, or a sentence, or a doom is *irrevocable*, it means, you know, *not to be recalled*, it is from *re* and *voco*, you *knew* all this, did you not? but "*forgot*," seeing that in the practice of medicine, a man "*needs not know anything at all*"—I mean a "*German man*," of course. These Americans are so stupid, *they only require knowledge*. And you seem to reject the probable necessity of "*laying your fortune into the hands of men whose strength lays in their fists.*" As your fortune is no doubt *very* considerable, in real estate and personal property, how do you think their hands could hold so vast an estate? Moreover, as their "*strength lays*" *there already*. And when the act of "*laying*" is consummated, the *eggs* must "*lay*" there too, so that you must needs put *more than one* body in the same place at the same time! Now, Curt, if I, *your good genius*, can make so much fun out of your nonsense, what do you think Geary would make of it, if he were to write one of those "*verbose articles*" of his on it? Do, my friend, be careful—I could indeed take every line of this article, and pull it to pieces after this fashion.

You say again "*the fists of our hero, together with his immeasurable wit, is amply sufficient, &c.!*" Again, "*that pair of long ears which at present adorns his mighty head!*" It must be owned, dear Curt, you call bad names *very badly*. What, "*ears which adorns?*"—*they adorns!!* Oh, Pretsch, Pretsch, I much fear me, if Geary were to find this, he might say, "Curt, you have not put the ears on the *right ass* this time." My good Pretsch!

"*fists is !*"—oh, *they is !*—look out for "Hercules" in time, for he'll certainly "be the death of you," and I say, *don't forget the night school !*

Permit me, now, to come to the *point* and *spirit* of your contribution, your object seems to be to "prostrate" your man at any cost, as the faithful, but doubtful champion of Hering and Lippe, so with strange want of judgment, or rather want of something more important, want of truthfulness and honor, you call Geary a number of nicknames, as pointless and meaningless, when applied to him, as the word "*educated*" would be if used in reference to the German "*doctors*"—for instance, you call him "Hercules, a "*rowdy*," a "*loafer*, a "*gladiator*," "*Cerberus*," and an "*ass !*" for you say that "*long ears adorns his mighty head.*" I am sorry you made use of this language, for it does not figuratively or literally bear heavily upon our enemy, and if he were to see it he would very likely laugh at you, and say that he could hire a little sweep for a penny to call twice as many bad names to the most learned and amiable man in the community. So this too would weaken our cause, you see, therefore let us be careful.

You make another series of charges, viz. :

1. That he is ignorant of medicine, and has not written upon the subject.
2. That he has proved no medicine.
3. That he is only a *middling* good English scholar, knows *only some* Latin.
4. That he is only fit for a "*tolerable good school-master*," and only "a school-master criticising a doctor."
5. That he has performed no "*miraculous cure*."
6. That he is not a physician of long standing or experience.
7. That he only graduated in 1855, at the "*Philadelphia College of Homœopathy*."
8. That his pocket-book was so lean—in other words, that he was so poor—that he could not afford to buy a later edition of Dr. Hering's book, to review or consult for his information.

I am very much afraid indeed, that if each of these charges should pass in review before Dr. Geary, he could do us as much damage as he has already done. Suppose he were to meet them *seriatim* thus :

the first and sixth may be discussed together, in relation to which I may just ask *how you know* whether he is ignorant of medical science or not? Does the fact of his education and general intelligence imply this? Have you examined or conversed with him, or have your party or each of them? Do you know whether he loses his patients through his want of skill? Have you heard of his *being indicted as a felon for illegal, and mal-practice*.

Do you know what one of the chiefs of your party said not more than a few months ago to the members of a family, whose reputation is beyond question? why that "*Geary knew more than the whole of a certain body of physicians,*" who shall now be nameless—a piece of laudation which was indeed highly exaggerated, as Geary does not claim or deserve so high an estimate, any more than he does the low one at which you *rate* him.

And that he has since May last written more, and to better purpose, for the benefit of the profession, than all the "German doctors" in the State of Pennsylvania have during their whole lives, will be soon manifest, if it is not already so, to every *educated* physician in our school. Yes, his *writing* has drawn, and shall draw, the line of *demarcation*, and *separation* too, between educated medical men and ignorant pretenders, who can neither spell, read, nor write. Again, how do his medical deficiencies appear to those who are good judges? Did he show any want of knowledge in Dr. *Lippe's labor case*? Do you not see how nicely he diagnosed all its points, and how readily he parried the *double dodge* which the "*favor*" indicated? Do his reviews of Hering's "Homœopathist," and of Lippe's "Contributions," display great ignorance? Do you not see that he has always at command the *exact amount* of knowledge necessary for a given case? And if he thought the *argumentum ad hominem*, which you are so fond of, to be of great value he could—if he knew as much as I do—turn round and say, "I do not sir, pretend to more than my *reasonable share* of medical knowledge, but I know those among the *German party* who do, and if report speaks truth, and in this case I believe it certainly does, they generally avoid those *tests*, which try the *practical* skill, experience and education of a physician,—*minor surgery and obstetrics*,—in fact all cases which globules and symptom-lists cannot reach. I have heard of one who stood all day at the bedside of a patient, after the delivery of a child, waiting for a *twin* brother or sister, and in his

despair called in an American physician, who found only the *placenta* filling the *outer strait*, and merely remarked, in reply to a question from the nurse about the "*other expected baby*"—"O, *there is the other baby!*" Another who calls every headache an "inflammation of the head," another who tells his patients that the "*three main leaders of their body are out of order*," and who has discovered a *new law* for the administration of Homœopathic medicine, which is philanthropically, and according to the usages of the *honorable* members of the profession, kept as a profound *secret* for the benefit of his own patients! Now, what judges are you, or such men as these, of Dr. Geary's, or any other man's medical knowledge? Does your own poverty enable you to count exactly the amount of money any man may have in his private purse? As to his experience he has never presumed upon it, any more than he has upon his other acquirements; he professes only to have as much as may be reasonably expected *from his time*. But this he can say, that for the last three years which he has devoted to the study and treatment of disease, he has seen more than you have in all your life in Hollidaysburg. The best mode of settling this question will be for you to furnish to the next number of the Journal *your clinical record*, and he will furnish his: both—but *yours of necessity*—may prove of some use to the readers,—for the three years last past, or for one, if you like. Here can be no mistake, it is a fair test,—shall I tell Geary you accept the challenge?

The second is, "that he has proved no medicine." Well, suppose he has not, what does *it prove* for or against him? Have you, friend Curt, proved any? You say not, then you see, a man *can be very great, like you*, without proving medicine! And it is well that neither of us have followed the example of many who have undertaken a task which left us no result beyond a small capital for the comic taste of those who have, not without reason, laughed at our "*louse catchers*."

The third is, "that he is only a middling English scholar." Why Pretsch, my friend, how do *you know* whether he is or not? How are you, who cannot spell, string together a verb and a noun, and do not know the bearing or signification of the plainest word in our tongue, able to tell aught about Geary's scholarship? Bah! my dear fellow, "don't be making a jolly fool of yourself,"—though it comes quite natural to you. If a parcel of school-boys had you

among them, they would strip you, plaster you over with mud, and fit a dunce's cap on your skull, not for your ignorance, but your presumption. But the best still remains! "that he knows *some Latin*." Dr. Hering could tell you that he knows *some Greek* too. Now, Curt, *you don't know any Latin*, and you have given Geary another advantage here. You write a review which every one can see to be an imitation of his peculiar style in dealing with his friends, the Germans, you borrow most of your words and phrases from his articles; you find a "*Latin phrase-book*" and copy three or four sentences, to show that you are or can be *as learned*, as the reviewer, when you mount your high horse! But you quite overlook the incongruity between *bad spelling*, vile *grammar* and high classical attainments! You do not even know that Shakspeare's drama of "Julius Cæsar," is not a standard Latin or Greek author, for you class it without any qualification with Ovid. Now, suppose Geary should take a fancy, just for the fun of the thing, to drag you into Greek and Celtic, or even Hebrew—for I heard him say it formed one of his college studies—and say:

4. "Kunòs 'ómmat 'echon, kradien d 'elaphoio!"*

5. "Astualon dá'r 'épephne meneptolemos Polupoites."

6. "Mé se, geron, koilesen 'egò neusi kicheio, &c.

7. "Da mheid Eolais, radhare is foghlaim

Do ghibheann an cóbach, mac an Daoi,

Briseann au duthchas tres an m-bruid

Tar eis gach cúrsa do chur a g-erich."—Vide, P. S. 4, 5, 6, 7.

—each sentence being a *defiance*, a *sneer*, a *caution*, a *sarcasm*, directed against you and the leading members of your party—what are you to do? just to sit down and curse the day that brought you into so helpless and powerless a dilemma! Curt, you had better keep silence, lest the echo of your folly should reach the mountains, reverberate in the ears of your patients and friends, and make you a *very small* man indeed—no doubt you are now a man of "mighty big" learning in their eyes; keep up your character, look to yourself, my boy. If Geary had your article and thought it worth his while, he might, perhaps, have five hundred copies of it struck off with all the bad spelling and mistakes printed in *red ink*, with a

* The Roman characters are used for the accommodation of the printers.

wood-cut of *some queer animal* on the first page, and send it broadcast to every house in Hollidaysburg! And then where would you go?

The fourth is, "that he is only fit for a good school-master." Now, Curt, you think this *very good* in more ways than one, don't you? You think that it is a "hard slash" at Geary's *former occupation*, and its *plebean* associations, and that your own penetration is shown to good advantage in discovering a man's exact place in society by his writing! Poor fellow! at fault again! But what shall I say to you? Why, you sly boots, *all this information was sent you by the party here*, was it not? and was it not for the purpose of saying something *peculiarly disgraceful* to Geary? As you, who are so good a judge, concede to him so much learning as to fit him "for a tolerable good school-master," and that we have already settled the point that a "German doctor" in America needs no learning, it follows that Geary's is all waste;—*he is educated*, therefore *he is not fit for a doctor!* As to the *disgrace* of being engaged in teaching, I think Geary would at once confess to this degradation, but I do not believe, from what I know of him, that he would submit to be called a "school-master" in your sense of the term, he would, perhaps, tell you that he was not a "*common*," or "*parish*," "*school-teacher*," nor a "*German charity school-master*,"—though he knows very well that many very honorable and well-educated men have filled these places, and have made, perhaps, better doctors than even yourself, though that may not be so easy. He did teach the sons of gentlemen and noblemen only, *in his school*, and noblemen, gentlemen, ladies, and *even doctors*, "*out of school!*" But he never was reduced to the necessity of teaching the *brats of German pauper emigrants!* Might he not ask you now, with a good grace, what were you and your party before you commenced the "*business of doctoring*" among the Americans? What *trades* did you follow? Were any of you *poor scholars on the bounty of very poor "German princes?"* Were any of you mere day-laborers, with pickaxe and spade in hand up in the mountains? Were any of you *shoemakers in Pittsburgh?* Were any of you—I mean the *whole class of German doctors*—of that class who "leave their country for their country's good?" It may be rather awkward to answer all these just now, but *if any one should volunteer a reply*, it may be still more disagreeable to see the answers in print. So again I say, look out for the Reviewer.

Upon my word I am afraid he will catch me writing you this friendly letter, if he does, I fear he will insist upon writing the postscript himself.

In reply to the fifth, "that he performed no miraculous cures," he would say, perhaps, "no, I did not; my cures, such as they have been, were owing to the skilful application of homœopathic medicines, not to *miracles*, or legerdemain either; 'the age of miracles has passed by' in this city, except among 'some German doctors.' I suppose you have four or five miraculous cures a day at Hollidaysburg."

To the seventh he pleads also guilty. "He did graduate in the year 1855, at the *Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania!*" Long and gloriously may it flourish, in spite of German intrigue and jealousy, to grant degrees to honorable, educated and deserving members! And never may it fall so low, *like the old degree shop*, at Allentown, Pa., as to give *certificates* to the vulgar and the ignorant at the expense of the community who suffer danger, sickness and perhaps death at their hands! Certainly *this year is late* for a man to graduate; though, Curt, you know one must do it *some time*, unless, like many of the German doctors in this country, *he gives himself his own diploma*. But suppose Geary were to ask you, "*when and where did you graduate? How long ago was the 'ink dry' on your diploma? Was yours all ink, or only the names of the 'Professors?'*" because most of mine is engraved," do tell me all this? it interests me vastly. I can "poke" it at Geary when I see him. But stay, I have something very particular to tell you, mind you don't tell any one. I saw the other day an *affidavit* made before a magistrate of this city by a highly respectable citizen, and witnessed by a highly respectable physician, declaring that one of the chiefs of "the party" here, communicated to the declarant that "he," *our man*, "*had never graduated at any college, and never had any legal right to practice medicine!*" When you come to town I'll get you a look at this document, but mind be mum. Now, don't you think, after all, that it is more honorable for Geary to have graduated even *this year*, than to be in such a fix as this? And, between ourselves, I "rather think" there are more than one of our fellows in that same "ugly fix!" I hope they'll soon "get the independent college" underway, we could all get diplomas there easy enough, but that "Hercules" Geary, has played the very mischief with it. Saint Bonifacio forgive him!

To your eighth, and last, "that his pocket-book was so lean that he could not afford to buy a late edition of Hering's Domestic," he could reply that the friends here did not at all "*post you*" in the necessary information on these two points, and therefore left you in the *cruel fangs* of the "Cerberus" of the Review, to take another bite out of your *soft parts*. He may say, though he cannot "boast of his wealth," that certainly *no German* ever commenced the "*practice of Homœopathy*" in this city in such comfortable circumstances, or with anything like so good a library. Why, bless your simple heart, it is more than likely that his "office furniture and books" would buy your whole property in Hollidaysburgh;—and indeed, you must be pretty comfortably off, for a country village doctor, to be worth as much. And if you who, in the laudable pursuit of *electricity under difficulties*, can make an electrical machine out of "a two ounce bottle," "to try to *solve the great riddle*," (a "pretty kettle of fish" you did make out of the riddling business) had only recourse to his *laboratory*, you might easily find how much electricity escaped from the spout of the man-in-the-moon's teapot, on any given day at breakfast time, and apply the information, to the finding out of which "party is in the right, and which in the wrong," or gather enough of it to potentize one of the coal mines in your region; which you could sell to the "profession-at-large" as new medicine, under the title of *Electro-carbo-anthriscitabilis*. So that your joke about the "lean pocket-book," is a very poor one indeed. And as to buying a later edition of Hering's Domestic, either for review or perusal, it would be more difficult than the solution of your own "great riddle," and that for the very simple reason that *there exists no such book*. I do know of a book bearing Dr. Herring's name, and now sold as his, which book is *positively stated* to have been compiled and written by the late amiable and excellent Dr. Esrey. Unless, therefore, you could prove that this is not the fact, I hardly think your ironical dig at Geary's want of books, and the "*leanness of his pocket-book*,"—in your sense of that elegant language—is any more effective than all your other efforts to "bring him down a peg." And it is rather unlucky that he could thus very easily turn all your *heavy artillery* against you, even to the utter destruction of yourself and party, and by no other means than the simple FORCE OF TRUTH AND JUSTICE, supported by

"The power of thought, the magic of the mind."

But I must hasten to a close; I find you express a strong wish to "get acquainted with" Dr. Geary, whom you style the "trumpeter," though he was Hercules just before—a herald and a champion at the same time; but I am going back to your *fine* Rhetoric—well, when you come to town I will introduce you, but take care it may not be with you as it was *with the fox when he first saw a lion*—if not, you must be made of very different stuff from the general run of *German peasants and mountaineers*, whom I have fallen in with in my day, both at home and abroad.

Now, friend Pretsch, I have written you a very long letter this time, simply for two reasons: first, that *you may not expect another word till you have learned to spell and string your little words decently together*. And, second, because I saw clearly enough that your party made a cat's paw of you,—a poor, conceited, ignorant simpleton,—more an object of pity than blame—and it served my purpose to make use of you, as they did, to prove to them how Dr. Geary, the "late school-master," can afford to hurl contempt and defiance in their teeth, when they make their feeble efforts to hurt his social or professional reputation, through such miserable tools as *you*—while not a man among them has the moral courage, or rather the desperate hardihood, to lift a pen to contradict a word he has written. If this matter goes much farther, he may use weapons that will make them the scorn and contempt of every sensible man and woman in the community. If he should take it into his head to fire his guns from a *public newspaper*, instead of a monthly medical journal, the reign of "German doctoring" and ignorance, that would disgrace footmen, screened only by broken English,—may soon come to an end in the United States of America.

Farewell, dear Curt, you are my debtor for a long letter, as soon as you have learned to spell,—meantime, believe me your faithful friend,

HERCULES DE PAIDAGOGO, M. D.,
(Not of Allentown, Pa.)

Postscripta.

No. 1.

"Your anger cease, and know me still
The humble bearer of his will.

You, who have seen and shared his pleasant ways,
On *him* your rage and scorn unjustly pour!

Truly I state, what he in pity says;
Nor dare say less, nor add one sentence more."

No. 2. A poor cobbler, ruined by want, had commenced the practice of medicine in a strange country. * * * *

No. 3. What madness it is, O, my people! that you should trust your lives in the hands of a fellow to whom no one would trust his shoes to be soled.

No. 4. "Thou dog in forehead, but in heart, a deer!"

No. 5. And further, Polypoetes, firm in war, slew Astyalus.

No. 6. Let me not, old man, catch thee at the hollow ships, either now lingering, or hereafter coming again.

No. 7. The vulgar clown, by nature formed of clay,
 May study books, and travel far away;
 But reading, men and manners, all being past,
 His native genius stamps the clown at last.

OUR LITERATURE.—A REVIEW.

BY JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M. D.

TESSIER ON ASIATIC CHOLERA AND PNEUMONIA.

THE traveller, wearied with his toilsome journey over inhospitable and barren regions, which afford but scanty and unwholesome food, and where water seldom glads the eye or refreshes the heart, welcomes the hour which brings him in sight of fertile plains with their teeming plenty and springs of living water; when nature's longings are almost as well satisfied by the assurance of surrounding abundance as by actual enjoyment:—the soldier at the close of the day of terrible conflict jaded with his heavy strides over the bodies of the slain, the reeking blade dropping from his paralyzed hand, welcomes the shade of his canvas canopy and the repose of the midnight hour when the din of battle is heard no more:—the men of medicine, law, divinity and commerce welcome the quiet hours they snatch from anxious thoughts, from doubtful hopes, and treacherous ventures! No less comfort than each, than all of these, do we derive from being able to turn aside from the bootless task of wading through words without meaning, and combinations without thoughts;

—the mutilated technicalities of our profession without a trace of the ideas they should suggest in their integrity, to the perusal and review of what promises to give us a double reward for our toil, in the shape of information for ourselves and a favour to those who have thought, and may still think, our poor contributions worth perusal. It also affords us no small satisfaction to be able to *retain a title*, chosen in derision, in a spirit of contemptuous irony, to pour the greater ridicule upon the spurious counterfeits we have nailed to the table, as a caution to others who may still wish to enrich themselves by passing base coin in our market:—the cankering excrescences, we have *cauterized*, as being without the bounds of our art, and therefore requiring other modes of treatment than those directed by our therapeutic law,—and to make “OUR LITERATURE” the significant and appropriate announcement of writings which deserve to hold this place by pre-eminence in our School. It is then with a peaceful and refreshed, as well as a better informed, mind, we turn aside from the perusal of two small volumes, which we hesitate not to place on our shelves in the ranks of *our literature*, in which we find the learning of the accomplished scholar, the skill of the experienced physician and the genius of the deep and accurate thinker. Each so fully developed and so commanding, that we do not know which to admire the most, or which to commend the highest. We are sure that all the members of our school will be willing to subscribe to more hearty and unqualified praise when they have read these volumes for themselves. It is not their least important feature that they introduce us to two of the most dangerous and destructive diseases that scourge the human family, and often most distressingly baffle the powers and remedies of the physician. The little work of Tessier on Asiatic Cholera is especially valuable, inasmuch as its ambition is not, like too many who are *daily dying to become immortal*,—*fas vel nefas*—to lead us away into the tangled mazes and wild fastnesses of bewildering speculations on the *essence*, or *quintessence*, of the disease known as cholera, or into reckless experiments with remedies *assumed to be specifics*, by a delusive and restless fancy,—“*proved*” only in imagination, and with the somewhat vain ambition that *other countries should have their Hahnemann* as well as Germany! No, with Tessier for our guide we rest upon a firm and immovable foundation—the actual observations and experiments of a skilful and thoroughly qualified physician at the bed-side of his patients,

grappling with disease step by step, and inch by inch—his only weapons *well-proved, well-tried* and *well-known* Homœopathic remedies! Here, nothing is risked without proof—nothing is offered as gratuitous, nothing is forced; every word is a fact, and every fact the result of a trust-worthy experiment. Such are the books we need. They contain teachings we can appreciate, they add to the stock of useful knowledge, they advance science, they bring honor to our school. How unlike the miserable medical jargon of men who *entered our ranks as unqualified intruders*, and “made a reputation” in the early dawn of our day, before the full light exposed them as trespassers on our sacred grounds. But let these *go*, and let Tessier and such men as he, speak for themselves, and to *those* who are willing to learn, only from men who have a right to presume to teach. The following description of the fearful disease in all its stages, is well worthy of careful perusal and study; and no less so the cases we give as an illustration of the mode in which the patients under his care are treated

“SIMPLE CHOLERA.”

“This form is generally considered typical of epidemic cholera. I have seen many instances of it towards the close of summer, between the two epidemics of 1832 and 1849. Sauvages asserts, that in his time, some twenty cases of it were admitted every year into his hospital of St. Eloi of Montpellier, if I am not mistaken. This, is proportionally, a much larger number than occurs at Paris, when the disease is not epidemic.

The simple cholera presents two well marked periods: a frigid period, and a period of reaction, when a cure is about to take place, or else a period of collapse, when the disease terminates fatally. For the sake of more completeness we will divide the phases of the disease into a greater number of periods.

Period of the precursory Symptoms.—The precursory symptoms vary. Sometimes they consist in a diarrhœa without colic, with increasing alvine discharges, first of fœcal matter, afterwards of a watery substance which is green or of a pale color, and finally assumes a whitish appearance. This phenomenon may be accompanied by others, but it is sometimes isolated until the actual invasion of the disease. The diarrhœa may be accompanied by colic, with an

urging to stool as often as the cholic is felt. In such a case the patient generally experiences an increased feeling of weakness. In other cases the precursory symptoms consist of more general, and more vague phenomena ; the head is slightly embarrassed ; slight attacks of vertigo take place every now and then ; sleep is disturbed ; the patient is tormented by an undefinable uneasiness. There is loss of appetite, anorexia, with or without thirst, a bitter or flat taste in the mouth, slight nausea, a certain fulness in the epigastrium, and a sensation as if the hypocondria were traversed by a bar that now rises and then descends again ; the abdomen is distended ; the patient is seized with urging to stool, after which the diarrhœa develops itself, consisting nearly of profuse serous discharges without any fœcal odor. The patient complains alternately of heat and cold ; his face is pale, his complexion sometimes sallow, he looks sad and his voice is somewhat hoarse and thinner. These phenomena increase and decrease alternately. The nausea which accompanies the alvine evacuations, increases more and more ; and the nausea is accompanied by weakness, vertigo and coldness until the moment when the disease breaks forth.

If the precursory symptoms do not exist in every case, the cases where they are wanting, are, at any rate, very few. The duration of the precursory period varies from a few hours to several days. During this period most of the patients attend to their business or pleasures. It is sometimes after a meal that the second period commences.

Period of invasion.—This period has three principal symptoms, diarrhœa, vomiting and cramps.

After a feeling of anxiety and malaise, the patient is suddenly seized with a copious vomiting of alimentary substances mixed with liquids and the gastric fluid ; he feels easier after the vomiting, but he, at the same time, experiences a sense of coldness, which runs through the trunk and extremities ; thirst sets in, but the introduction of beverages into the stomach excites fresh and easy vomitings of fluid substances, which look more or less bilious ; the vomiting is speedily followed by a light-colored and profuse diarrhœa, accompanied by borborygmi and soon after by sinking of the abdomen. The nausea which exists simultaneously with the diarrhœa, is soon followed in its turn by vomiting. In the bends of the knees, or in the knees, loins, hypocondria, and in the upper and lower limbs, the patient

experiences simple pains or distressing cramps. At this stage the patients generally take to their beds and try to get warm. But their rest is unceasingly disturbed by alvine or gastric evacuations, or by muscular pains, partial shuddering and coldness. The invasion of the disease is sometimes progressive and, except the vomiting, this period cannot be distinguished without difficulty from the preceding one. It sometimes lasts for some hours without any new symptoms supervening. At other times it sets in abruptly, and the disease develops itself at once as soon as it invades the organism. In some cases the diarrhoea ceases for a moment as soon as the vomiting takes place; there are likewise cases where no cramps occur.

On examining the conditions of the organs at the time when the first attack takes place, we find a well marked inflammatory congestion of the gums and tongue; on its dorsal surface the tongue is covered with a uniform, characteristic, white coating, and at its edges and on its inferior surface, it exhibits a red, somewhat livid color, which contrasts very decidedly with the color of the coating. The throat is likewise irritated; and the œsophagus is somewhat painful in its whole extent, the epigastrium is painful to pressure, the abdomen is tormented by colic, which spreads from the navel to the neighboring parts. The urine, which had been scanty until then, ceases to flow; the skin of the hands is cool, likewise that of the face. The aspect of the patient is not yet much altered; but when the attack takes place with violence, the features of the patient alter at once.

Period of increase.—This is termed the cold period, on account of the new symptom which is added to the former. After the vomiting a remarkable change takes place in the pulse, which becomes feeble, irregular, intermittent. The temperature of the extremities sinks, first of the lower, then of the upper. The skin of the extremities looks livid; the face changes rapidly; the eyes seem to retreat into their sockets in consequence of the collapse of the cellular tissue; the nose becomes cold, the lips bluish, the general malaise and the anxiety increase; cramps set in after the alvine discharges, which become more and more frequent, and look whitish, are mixed with gray or white flocks resembling the offal of washed meat, or rice that had been boiled too long. The vomiting becomes more and more copious; the patient is no longer relieved by the

vomiting as at first ; on the contrary, it is preceded and followed by burning at the epigastrium, under the sternum, and by a painful pressure at the epigastrium. The patient is restless, complaining at times of coldness, at others of heat of the extremities ; the cramps become much more frequent ; the face and extremities exhibit signs of rapidly increasing emaciation ; the livid color of these parts changes to a bluish violet color, which becomes more and more marked. The eyes are dull, dry, the nostrils are frequently covered with a dusty substance, the nose is pointed ; the bluish parts are covered with a cold sweat ; the pulse becomes smaller, feebler, more imperceptible, at times regular, at others unequal and intermittent, or slower or more frequent, than in a normal state of the system. The voice becomes gradually extinct, and the patient speaks only in a low tone of voice ; and when he does speak, it is only to ask for drink, wherewith to quench his burning thirst. He is also heard to moan or to utter plaintive cries when the violent cramps seize him. The cramps become more and more painful—more and more general. Generally they decrease under the influence of heat and frictions. But all such relief does not last long.

Sometimes the accidents seem to cease for some hours, and it seems as though a real remission of the symptoms were setting in ; but soon after the diarrhoea, vomiting, cramps, blueness and coldness re-appear with an increased intensity. These illusory remissions may last a day or a night ; but then the symptoms return with increased violence at the hour when they had broken out the day before. These remissions have given rise to the belief that there is an intermittent cholera.

The period of growth lasts from a few hours to twenty-four and even forty-eight hours, after which the symptoms seem to remain stationary for some time.

Acme.—When the disease has reached its acme, the symptoms remain for some time the same ; they present a complete development of the cholera.

The patient generally lies on his back ; the position of the patient varies according as he is quiet or restless.

The features of the patient exhibit what is termed the hippocratic face. Its complexion is cyanotic, especially the ears, nose, eyelids, lips ; this bluish color invades the upper part of the neck, and sometimes the whole neck. Generally the face is without any expression ;

nevertheless the sensations and even the feelings of the patient are still depicted in it ; it looks frightful when the patient is tormented by cramps.

The skin of the trunk frequently preserves a certain warmth ; that of the extremities is cold, livid, bluish, wrinkled, dry or moist. The intellectual faculties are undisturbed, the senses preserve their respective faculties. However, the patient is troubled with vertigo, buzzing in the ears, and does not wish to talk.

The pains are more or less violent and scattered ; the most intolerable of the pains are the burning under the sternum, the bar across the epigastrium, and cramps in the muscles of the trunk.

The muscular strength is considerably decreased ; nevertheless the patient is still able to sit up in bed either for the purpose of drinking or vomiting ; the trunk and the extremities move with an astonishing ease.

The breathing, which is frequently natural, is often embarrassed by the constrictive cramp-pains of the thoracic muscles ; it is sometimes hurried. The voice has no resonance, or it is hoarse and feeble ; at the base of the thorax the patient experiences an anxiety which sometimes increases to a perfect agony, and makes the patient say that he is choking.

The beats of the heart are weaker than in a normal state ; the pulse of the large arteries corresponds with the beats of the heart ; at the wrist the pulse sometimes differs, being very small or completely extinct. Sometimes it is only felt on one side.

The tongue and mouth are the seat of a well marked stomacace ; in many cases the throat is similarly affected. The vomiting at this stage may be considered typical of the vomiting in cholera ; likewise the atonic discharges. In the discharges from the stomach or bowels, the bile has entirely disappeared. The urinary secretion is completely suppressed ; the secretion of tears and nasal mucus likewise ceases. In some patients sweat breaks out, not only on the extremities, but on the trunk also.

Terminations : in death.—After a momentary remission of the symptoms, and a slight re-appearance of warmth at the extremities, and of the radial pulse, this latter becomes frequent, small, imperceptible ; the vomitings take place at longer intervals, and the stools become involuntary. The patient is tormented by a desire for sleep, which he is unable to satisfy ; he becomes silent, closes his eye-lids,

remains motionless, except when he is seized with the cramps or the vomiting; the bluish color becomes still darker; it extends above the wrist, where it changes to a livid hue, that gradually spreads over the trunk. A viscid sweat covers the face and extremities; the beats of the heart become weaker, the breathing shorter, hurried, the eyelids are almost motionless, half open; the eye is so dry that the choroid membrane is almost seen through the sclerotica, and the patient dies after a death-struggle of a few hours.

In recovery.—If the disease terminates in recovery, we have a different group of symptoms. The morbid phenomena disappear gradually in the reverse order of their original development. The symptoms that appeared last, are the first to yield.

The warmth of the extremities returns gradually; the blueness disappears; the eyes become more prominent, the features assume a more pleasant expression. The blueness is gradually replaced by a less livid and brighter color. The pulse begins to beat feebly, but regularly; the cramps become much less frequent; the vomiting becomes easier, less frequent and copious; the evacuations again become bilious, first yellowish, afterwards greenish, and instead of continuing serous and grumous, they change to evacuations of fecal matter. The patient desires to urinate, and succeeds in emitting a slight quantity of cloudy urine; the voice becomes stronger; the patient feels better, although he still complains of malaise, headache, heaviness of the head, burning in the chest and stomach.

If the remission continues, the symptoms gradually disappear; the blueness ceases entirely, the coldness is succeeded by a warmth, which is either uniformly mild and equal, or else unequal, slight at the extremities, and burning at the trunk. The urine is secreted regularly, the cramps cease, the vomitings become less and less; the diarrhoea which was the first symptom when the disease broke out, is the last to yield. Finally, sleep sets in, and with it a feeling of ease. Recovery is not always as easily accomplished. A more or less intense fever sets in, with congestion of the head, eyes, local inflammations of the mouth, stomach or bowels. All the symptoms may have ceased, and a single one may have remained. Sometimes the cramps remain, at others the bilious vomiting, as effect of a gastritis, or a bilious diarrhoea, from which we infer a bilious inflammation of the bowels; the cerebral congestion sometimes yields with much difficulty. As long as the symptoms have

not entirely disappeared, some new disorder frequently shows itself retarding the happy termination of the disease.

The period of reaction is sometimes a deception both to the patient and the physician. *After* a remission of the symptoms, which is always incomplete in such a case, and may last from a few hours to one or two days, the symptoms of the disease suddenly reappear in all their intensity; the cerebral congestions again develop themselves, the breathing becomes shorter, the coldness and blueness again become perceptible, and the patient sinks into a stage of collapse, which is sometimes accompanied by a profound coma, and, at other times, is without any cerebral congestion, and without coma.

Genuine cholera generally terminates on the first day, on the third, seventh, or fourteenth, from the day of invasion. This termination takes place with or without critical changes, generally without. The most frequent critical changes are sweats, nosebleed, cutaneous eruptions; after these crises there sometimes remains some important secondary phenomenon, such as stomacace, gastritis, enteritis, or muscular pains and weaknesses; these frequently occur in the lower extremities.

Convalescence does not really set in until after the crisis. It lasts more or less long, according to the age; old people recover slowly and with difficulty; young people on the contrary, recover speedily, easily and completely. I have never noticed any desquamation of the epidermis or falling off of the hair taking place during this period.

Simple genuine cholera has a number of varieties, especially in regard to the intensity of the disease, which is of several degrees, although always very serious. These various degrees of intensity depend upon the intensity of the symptoms in the cold stage, or upon the affections which develop themselves during the period of reaction. The more or less rapid development of the symptoms of the first period, the decided character of the remission and the setting in of positive convalescence; or the oscillations between the remissions and the return of the phenomena of the period of increase; the duration of the period of reaction; the difficulty of restoring the functions, and lastly, the secondary phenomena: all these various conditions constitute important differences.

This form of the disease prevailed principally at the commence-

ment of the epidemic of 1849. This was not the case in 1832. Although many cases occurred during the first period of the epidemic, nevertheless, the black or galloping form of the disease was much more frequent than during the second epidemic. This accounts for the difference in the mortality of the commencement of the two epidemics. With a few exceptions the first hundred cases all terminated fatally in the various wards of the Hotel Dieu. In 1849, on the contrary, the mortality was proportionately less at the commencement than during the progress of the epidemic. The cause of this was, that there were more cases of simple cholera at the beginning, than towards the middle of the epidemic. This form of the disease is much less fatal than either of the two forms, of which we shall now proceed to give a description.

Ataxic form.—Like the former variety, so has this one precursory symptoms; but I am not prepared to assert that these symptoms have anything characteristic. It has three well-marked periods, an irregular cold period, a period of incomplete remission, and a typhoid period. The frequency of this form in the epidemic of 1849, seems to have constituted one of its peculiar features. It was very scarce in 1832. Let us proceed to a description of its progressive development.

COLD PERIOD.—This period commences and delopes itself to all appearance as the period of increase in simple cholera. An attentive observer, however, may discover differences, which are sometimes very striking and at other times very doubtful. Thus, the patients show from the commencement a prostration of strength which is not at all proportionate to the other symptoms. The discharges may be very slight, and the weakness may nevertheless have reached a high degree of development. On the other hand, excessive evacuations from the stomach and bowels take place without either cramps or cyanosis being present. Or the face may have assumed a slightly bluish tint, and the pulse be entirely gone at the wrist; and, on the other hand, the pulse may still exist, with feeble, frequent, unequal and irregular beats, whereas, the cyanosis of the face and extremities is already fully developed. As regards the temperature of the body, it is likewise very irregular: the lower extremities may be cold, whilst the upper extremities are warm, and vice versa. The discharges may be moderate, whilst all the other symptoms are strikingly developed, the face and extremities are of a violet-color, and

the pulse is imperceptible. Generally, the patients are either very restless, or very drowsy, and dislike to be roused. These are the principal irregularities which distinguish the cold period of ataxic cholera. They do not, by any means, exist together in the same individual. In some cases only one of these irregularities exist, in others several; in some again, they are found united. In the former case it is almost impossible to distinguish, at this period, ataxic cholera from the simple form, which has many varieties. The cold period generally lasts from six to twelve hours, and sometimes longer.

Period of incomplete remission.—I have scarcely ever seen it wanting entirely, but it is more or less marked. What distinguishes it from the period of remission in the simple cholera, is this, that the symptoms do not disappear in the reverse order of their original development. The blueness may disappear, and yet the warmth not return. The pulse which had ceased to beat, may become perceptible without the cyanosis disappearing; and the cyanosis and coldness may have given place to a natural color and temperature, whereas the evacuations are much more copious and frequent. The vomiting and the alvine evacuations may cease, and yet the strength, the warmth, or the pulse, may not return. The patient may be talkative, restless; he may not feel thirsty, or he may experience a fainting sensation in the epigastrium, which seems to him like hunger. In some cases the cramps are violent, and extremely painful, in other cases they are scarcely perceptible; some patients keep their voice almost entirely. This period may last a few moments only, or two, and even three days, it is always followed by the third period, which we shall proceed to describe.

Typhoid stage.—This period sets in with drowsiness or delirium. But in proportion as the cerebral phenomena develop themselves more strikingly, we behold, in the place of febrile reaction proportionate to the cerebral irritation, a marked development of cyanosis and coldness. Nothing is more remarkable, more characteristic than these cold inflammations which develop themselves in the typhoid stage of ataxic cholera; this is the highest degree of the malignant form of the disease. In some cases the bronchia, the stomach or bowels are the seat of well-marked congestions or inflammations, without any diminution of the cyanosis, or coldness. Generally the pulse remains perceptible, excepting during the death-struggle,

which is almost always protracted, slow, accompanied with coma, and very frequently with a stertorous, noisy respiration.

Whereas, in simple cholera, the local irritations of the period of reaction set in with a marked febrile excitement, they are accompanied in the ataxic form of cholera with coldness and cyanosis. It seems scarcely necessary to point out this difference.

The ataxic form is deceptive; at first it seems less serious than simple cholera; its symptoms are less united, and some of the ordinary cholera symptoms are even wanting; but the spurious and incomplete remission which develops itself in the second stage, soon disturbs the physician; nevertheless he may remain deceived even then. The third stage can only deceive those who wish to be deceived.

Gallopings or black Cholera.—So far as a description of its symptoms is concerned, this variety is the simplest of any. Generally it has a precursory stage, but it does not last any length of time, only a few hours; in some cases the precursory symptoms are entirely wanting. The diarrhœa, vomiting, blueness, coldness and cramps, set in all together. The patient may be struck during his sleep, at table, or while taking a walk. It even happens that he is unable to rise from the chair on which he had seated himself to support his bowels. Sometimes he suddenly falls down in a swoon; the voice becomes extinct, the features are altered; the color of the face and that of the extremities change visibly, and the blueness gradually spreads over the whole body. After the attack has commenced, the patient is not allowed any rest; the discharges and cramps succeed each other without interruption; the pulse disappears, the secretions stop, the cadaverous aspect becomes more and more marked. Life frequently ceases all at once, in the midst of the cramps and discharges that have become involuntary; or the patient may sink into a collapse of some hours, during which the mind and the muscular movements become progressively weaker, whilst the whole body turns black, becomes icy-cold, covered with a clammy sweat, and looks truly frightful. This variety lasts from two to twenty hours.

Having analysed the phenomena of cholera through their order of succession and combination, and having, in this way, given the different varieties of this epidemic, we might now study each separate symptom and lesion, and study their modifications in regard to form, degree and period, for the purpose of arriving at a proper apprecia-

tion of the diagnostic and prognostic value of each symptom; but howsoever useful and necessary to a complete picture of the cholera-disease this might be, such an undertaking would carry us too far away from the end that we have proposed to ourselves, namely: the application of Hahnemann's method to the treatment of this disease. We have been obliged to limit ourselves to what has seemed to us indispensable.

Moreover the therapeutic analysis will, in a measure, replace the semeiotic portion; we will therefore pass over at once to the principal object of our investigations."

"§ III. THERAPEUTIC ANALYSIS."

"The preceding chapters have, it seems to me, sufficiently established the fact, that the physiology and pathology of cholera are as well known as those of any other severe disease. It remains to be shown, that the treatment of cholera can be conducted upon a truly scientific basis. This does not mean that such a treatment must prove efficacious in every case; the facts would contradict any such assumption. All we mean to affirm, is, that the indications and corresponding curative means in cholera can be scientifically shown; that the successes or failures in the treatment of cholera can be accounted for; and that what has been done and what yet remains to be done in this matter, can be accurately determined.

Let us commence with the facts; afterwards we will explain the method.

By facts we mean a description of the first twenty cases which came into our ward in the epidemic of 1849. Of the cases which arrived afterwards, we simply took a few notes. It would have been impossible, at a time when the increase of the epidemic brought to our hospital an increasing number of patients, to conciliate the duties of our office with the time required by elaborate statements of the cases. These twenty cases will be, moreover, found sufficient to enable us to substantiate our inferences.

We shall give the cases in the order in which the patients were brought to the hospital; and we shall accompany each case with such remarks concerning its nosography or therapeutics, as may seem requisite to place its most striking features in a stronger light. It should not be forgotten that the description which we have given

of cholera, is not taken from these twenty cases, but that it results from the study of the two epidemics of 1832 and 1849.

CASE I.—By Dr. Guyton.—*Epidemic Cholera; variety: simple Cholera.—Cure.*

Séfert, 58 years, carpenter, was brought to the hospital on the 29th of March, 1849, ward St. Benjamin, No. 10, (hospital Sainte Marguerite.)

The patient seemed to have a good constitution, and looked robust. Six days previous to being taken with cholera, he had been attacked with a diarrhoea, that was sufficiently violent to compel him to quit work on account of the frequency of the evacuations. They did not make him very sick, however. Having become impatient, Séfert concluded to stop his diarrhoea by a violent remedy, and got drunk. About midnight he returned home, went to bed—but the next morning he was so weak that he was unable to dress himself, and laid down again. About noon a relative who came to see him, and who got frightened by the vomiting, the diarrhoea, and the altered features of the patient, had him carried to the hospital.

One o'clock.—The patient showed the following symptoms: marked cholera physiognomy, eyes sunken, nose pointed, malar bones very prominent, features shrunk.

Tongue moist, whitish, cold; pain at the epigastrium, sensation as if a bar were stretched across; loathing, frequent nausea; ardent thirst; abdomen flat, not painful to pressure, except at the epigastric region. Immediately after entering the hospital, the patient was seized with copious vomiting of a clear watery substance which had a slightly greenish tinge. During my visit at half past two, the patient had four successive vomitings of the same substance.

The breathing was a little shorter and more frequent than in a normal condition; no aphonia, pulse very small, filiform, almost imperceptible; marked blueness of the fingers, hands; some of the veins of the forearms were swollen, blue and very prominent on the skin.

Coldness of the tongue, face, the whole surface of the body, and more particularly of the extremities; frequent cramps in the calves, instep, hands; they are very painful. Complete suppression of the urinary secretion; percussion showed that the bladder was empty. Prostration. Mind unimpaired; the patient's answers are not always very clear, and he waits some time before speaking.

Took *Carbo-veget.* 6, a small tablespoonful every hour, and on account of the feeling of loathing and the sickness at the stomach, *Bryonia* 3, every ten minutes; warm blankets.

At four o'clock, two stools of sickly smelling substance, having a whitish-grey color, and resembling perfectly a decoction of rice, several grains of which had split open and were crushed.

At five o'clock, took *Nux-vomica* 3, a spoonful every ten minutes, for the desire to vomit, instead of the *Bryonia*, that did not seem to have produced any effect.

Half past seven. Same general appearance. The patient has warmed up, about the head and trunk, even on the feet, but the warmth is not regularly distributed. He complains of internal heat. The pulse is stronger, more frequent, but continues very soft and compressible. The blueness has disappeared; there are only some traces of it under the nails. Respiration short, frequent; sound of the voice rather false, hoarse. Tongue moist; intense thirst. No stool; two other attacks of vomiting; abdomen sunken in, not painful to pressure, except in the epigastric region, where pressure excites an acute pain, that makes the patient to distort his features. These pains in the stomach, however, are spontaneous; they constitute a rest of painful compression; some slight paroxysms of cough increase them. Cramps in the legs and fingers are a little less frequent; the motions of the hands are yet beyond the control of the will. Headache, but no tightness or cramps. Gave *Arsenic.* 6, in solution, on account of the sensation of internal heat. Afterwards a solution of *Carbo-veg.* 24. No urine, skin dry.

March 30.—The face looks about the same. The tongue is moist but continues colder than in the normal state. Breathing hurried, but longer. Pulse a little fuller, but soft and compressible, 60 per minute. Skin tolerably warm, dry. Abdomen depressed, painful in the epigastric region. Shifting cramps. No vomiting during the night, the patient has slept a little at various times. This morning a stool of middling quantity, but of a different character, of a uniform yellow color, some consistence, resembling a bilious diarrhoea, of fair appearance. Passed a small quantity of urine. The patient complains of acute seated pains in the knees. *Carbo-veg.* 24, and *China* 12, both in solution, for the pain in the knees.

Four o'clock in the evening. Two attacks of vomiting of a leek-

colored substance, bilious, perfectly characteristic, of middling quantity. Tongue moist, whitish, still a little cold. The expression of the face is somewhat improved, the features are less shrunk, the eyes still sunken, and dry. Skin warm, dry, pungent heat on the abdomen, and in various other circumscribed places. The bowels are depressed, the pain at the epigastric region still continues. No stool or emission of urine. Pulse 64; dull headache.

March 31.—Expression of the face improved, intelligent; the eyes are less sunken, more animated; the region of the cheek-bone is dark-colored. Tongue moist, of a normal temperature, covered with a whitish coating, the edges and the tip somewhat red; gums red with a whitish border (slight stomacace). The heat of the body is milder, uniform, of the common temperatue of the breath; the pulse is fuller, firmer, 64. No pain at the abdomem or epigastrium from pressure. The patient coughs now and then; he sneezes freely. No cramps; the pain in the knees continues. Calm sleep in the night, and of some length at times. No headache, no vomiting, no stool, one emission of urine. Breathing longer, quieter, and voice has a more natural sound.

The general appearance of the patient is much better, the mind clear; there remains some uneasiness and restlessness in the manner, gesture, speech and looks of the patient.

Carbo-veget. in solution: wine of Bagnolles.

Evening: Mild, even, respiratory warmth; moist skin; eyes moist, full of tears; breathing easy, several quiet naps in the day-time. No headache, or pain at the stomach; no vomiting or stool. The patient passed urine three times in considerable quantity, and without any difficulty. No pain any where, except in the knees. Pulse sixty, regular, firm; the patient feels much better, he wants to eat. Broth and wine.

April 1st.—Is getting better all the time. Sound sleep, normal temperature, no pain, pulse 60, urinary secretion perfectly restored, good appetite. Broths and soups. The pain in the knees continues. *China* 12 in solution.

April 2d.—Complete convalescence. Last night had a papescent stool, of a natural color and smell. Urinary secretion, pulse, breath, temperature all natural, return of strength, knees free from pain, has some more flying pains in the legs.

China in solution. One tumblerful.

In the day-time the patient takes a walk in the garden.

April 3d.—The pains have ceased; the treatment is stopped. The convalescence went on without any interruption; on the 7th of April the patient's health was perfectly restored; on the 11th he was discharged cured.

This case is an example of what we have termed simple and genuine cholera. It was a severe case, without, however, presenting any very intense symptoms. We took a lively interest in this case; it was the first case of cholera treated homœopathically in our hospital.

At the commencement of the treatment we hesitated a little between Bryonia and Nux-vomica. Nux effected an improvement. However, it having been given together with the charcoal, it might be difficult to determine the part that each remedy had in this result. Arsenic was substituted for Nux, and since then, the cure advanced slowly but perceptibly.

On the third day the disease seemed broken, and the patient's convalescence seemed beyond all doubt. The only obstacle in the way was the continuance of the pain in the knees and legs. Consequently the period which we have termed the period of reaction, was a real remission."

CASE II.—By Dr. Guyton.—*Epidemic Cholera; galloping or black Cholera.—Death.*

Ward St. Benjamin, No. 1.

Regeret, 62 years old, basket-maker. Brought to the hospital at 6 o'clock in the evening.

Yesterday and this morning the patient enjoyed good health; he worked as usual until 9 o'clock in the morning; suddenly he was attacked with diarrhoea and copious vomiting. Intense thirst; pain in the back, cramps; quite cold.

He was brought to the hospital in the following state: Cadaverous physiognomy, in the full sense of the term; eyes deeply sunken; face shrunk, livid, cold as marble; tongue white, moist, cold; intense thirst. No pulse; general cyanosis; the extremities almost black. Quite cold all over.

Breathing short, superficial, frequent; complete loss of voice.

The abdomen is sunken; the epigastrium painful; sensation of cramps at the stomach. Liquid vomiting after entering, clear as water, with a slight greenish tinge.

Understanding perfectly lucid, muscular strength pretty fair; painful and frequent cramps in the calves and toes.

Solution of *Veratrum* 3.—Application of warm clothes.—Water sweetened with sugar.

From 9 o'clock until midnight the patient warmed up over the lower half of his body; the upper portion of the trunk, the neck and face are covered with a cold, clammy sweat, collecting in drops here and there. These parts become likewise more livid; the skin loses

its elasticity. The features become more and more altered, the eyes sink, become dull, lose their expression; the eyelids are depressed. Acute cramps in the legs. Constant pains at the stomach; no more vomiting; three bright yellowish stools. The breathing is frequent and feebler. No pulse. Auscultation scarcely reveals a tremulous motion in the region of the heart, indicating any contractions of this organ, and partially obscured by the respiratory murmur.

I left the patient at two in the morning, I had expected for some time to see him die every minute.

April 3d.—Tongue cold, intense thirst. Yellow-watery stool uniformly colored, not grumous. Liquid and clear vomiting, with a slight greenish tinge.

Voice gone. The animal strength is not quite prostrated; the patient sits up in his bed, turns about. Painful cramps in the feet.

Two attacks of vomiting in the day time; another stool.

About three o'clock, the patient who had been gradually sinking since morning, becomes listless, ceases to answer questions, the breathing becomes shorter and shorter, and he dies at 6 o'clock.

At the morning-visit, the patient had been ordered to take *Arsenic* and *Carbo-veg.* 6, in solution, every five minutes, alternately.

There never was a sign of reaction, no pulse. The patient looked like a speaking and feeling corpse; it was a condition that defies description.

Autopsy: Right ventricle, and the large veins filled with black, coagulated blood; the abdominal veins full of blood. Viscera empty. Peyer's glands greyish, perfectly perceptible, somewhat prominent. Scattered red spots in the bowels.

Bladder empty.

No morbid signs in the brain.

This case of black cholera set in at once, without any precursory symptoms, with all the intensity of the disease. The cyanosis was general. There was no reaction. Is the prolonged agony to be attributed to the treatment? This seems indeed all that it accomplished.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

239 Arch Street, Nov. 5, 1855.

To the Editors of the Philadelphia Journal of Homœopathy.
Gentlemen:—

In the seventh number of "The Homœopathic News," just issued, after a dormancy of eight months, during which it must have lain coiled up, like a venomous reptile, till it should gather fresh strength for another spring and another stroke of its poisonous fangs at the reputation, the honor and the integrity of honest and hard-working men, we are accused in these words—

"In M'Elroy's Philadelphia Directory for 1855, page 686, under 'Patent Medicines,' we find 'Rademacher and Sheek (Homœopathy) 239 Arch!' In the Directory for the previous year, we do not find them reported as engaged in *that* trade. There are two more firms in this city, that are homœopathic apothecaries, who, as homœopathists, are not classed in said Directory among the vendors of patent medicines. Did any body hear or see of "*The Specific for Croup?*" and whether or not this homœopathic specific has been patented? and by whom?"

"A. L."

by A. L., "*the renowned and never-to-be-forgotten A. L., of the first one hundred mistakes,*" we presume, of being compounders and vendors of patent medicine, and of having our name classed under that head in M'Elroy's Philadelphia Directory,—and the above significant question is put, which question is intended to be *to the point* and *to the purpose*—so as either to secure a silence which will prove us guilty, or elicit such a reply as must have a similar effect. In reply, then, we beg to inform A. L., and the profession generally, that we neither compound, make, vend or sell, any "patent medicines," nor do we offer for sale any "specific for croup," save that designated by the following label,—"*which, one should think, is clear enough, and terse.*"—

"Similia Similibus Curantur.

HOMŒOPATHIC CROUP AND COUGH SYRUP.

If Children wake suddenly at night, and begin with a choking cough, either from want of breath or an accumulation of mucus in the throat, with hurried breathing, hoarse, hollow cough, &c., give five, ten, or fifteen drops, every quarter, half or one or two hours, according to the age of patient, or the violence of the disease, until relief is afforded.

PREPARED & SOLD AT THE HOMŒOPATHIC PHARMACY OF

RADEMACHER & SHEEK,

NO. 239 ARCH STREET PHILADELPHIA."

If this is a "*nostrum,*" "*specific,*" or "*patent medicine,*" it is the *invention of Dr. Constantine Hering, not ours,* as may be seen from the following extract, taken from page 193 of the last edition of the "*Domestic Physician,*" compiled and written by the late Dr. Esrey, and *passing now as Dr. Hering's work,* but having only the sanction of his name and authority for the use of which, (for the present edition) we have paid him *six hundred dollars.*

"If children wake suddenly at night, and begin with choking cough, either from want of breath or an accumulation of phlegm in the throat, take one grain of *Tartar emetic* of the first trituration, put it in a glass of water, and after stirring it well, give a teaspoonful every ten, twenty, or thirty minutes, according to the violence of the symptoms, until relief is afforded. This medicine should always be kept on hand, but preserved with care, as one grain taken at once by a child, might cause its death." It will be seen on comparing our label with Dr. Hering's prescription, that we have not deviated in any way, except in the mode or medium of administration; we put *one grain of Tart. emet. in an ounce vial of syrup*, and recommend its administration as above. And for this, the grave charge we have stated is made in a paper of which Dr. Hering is co-editor with A. L. If Dr. Hering has published this paper for no other purpose than to destroy the reputation of physicians and business men, we cannot complain of the share that falls to our lot, of the vile and dishonorable falsehoods to which Drs. Hering and Lippe, for want of some more worthy method of making themselves notorious, thus subscribe.

We remain respectfully,
 RADEMACHER & SHEEK.

EDITORIAL.

IN the olden times the gifts of poetry and prophecy centred in the same individual; and indeed, the appropriate designations used by old writers classed them together. We do not know why these gifts should not still exist, and should not go hand in hand. Our opinion leads rather to the affirmative side of the question, strengthened somewhat by the remarkably accurate fulfilment of a quotation, to be found on the 405th page of our October number, in the reappearance of that extraordinary and ambitious periodical called "*The Homœopathic News*," which now *lies*, in more senses than one, upon our table. And this *is* NEWS, indeed! How deep must have been the loss sustained by the unhappy subscribers,—in which we were common sharers,—for a deprivation of that truly *liberal, scien-*

tific, and *magnanimous* little sheet ; which, thanks to our *stars*, has appeared among us once more, “like a giant, refreshed with new” — *lager beer* ! But we are told by Dr. Hering, that the delay from April to October in the regular issue of “The News,” (his fond name for this *dear little lisping thing*,) “was a wilful one, for very good reasons, and *I alone* am responsible for it.” Well, when *monarchs* stoop even to tell their humble subjects that they “*had reasons*,” even for beheading half their fellow serfs, it would be unpardonable presumption to expect that a single one of these *reasons* should drop from beneath the imperial canopy. So we place our foreheads in the dust, and accept with profoundest reverence, the intimation of the “reasons” which directed the movements of the privy-council of “The News,” during its interregnum of *eight months*. But majestic clemency has smiled, and we are blessed at last. “The News” is before us, the same “*old News*,” told over again ; the same “old song” again repeated, the same “old yarn” again spun, the same trumpet again sounded, the same blast of discordant, unharmonious jargon—“FIRST HUNDRED MISTAKES !” The same harsh, startling summons, which only betrays the weakness of the power that issues it—a dwarf sounds the horn which hangs from the portcullis of a giant’s castle. Thirty-nine of the “*first hundred*” have now enlightened the world. Read the 27th and 39th, the first and last items of the instalment of our debt, at the end of the seventh month. ““*Oppression*’ *has been left out, before continued desire to weep.*” “*In the next line, is left out, swelling and elongation of the pallet, also.*” From these two specimens—and as *we have only read these two*, our choice cannot be partial,—you may judge of all the rest. What a terrible loss, that “*oppression* should be left out before weeping !” One would think that weeping always implies oppression, so that the one might fairly suggest the other. But words are only of consequence to those who understand their meaning ; a piece of knowledge not necessary for a certain class of “doctors” among us. And then again, we are gravely told of “*swelling and elongation of*” a LITTLE BED—for that is the only meaning we know for the word *pallet*, here used by our *accomplished professor*.—

“When reposing that night on my *pallet* of straw,
By the wolf-scaring faggot that guarded the slain :”

Campbell.

Ye gods ! when shall the reign of ignorance of the very grossest kinds, come to an end ? And when shall an intelligent community raise its voice against this imposture ? But this is not all, we find " Manuel " for *Manual*, &c., &c., with the names of standard authors, as "*Boeninghausen*" for *Bönnighausen*. Here is the march of intellect ! Here is the " school-master abroad," indeed, among the German doctors ! We have every mind to open a column in our Journal next month, headed, " The First one Thousand Mistakes," we are sure we shall not be long in filling up the number from the abundant materials around us.

A communication given in the following words speaks for itself.

" The homœopathic physicians of Great Britain are preparing a complete Repertory. Every American Homœopathist should send his name and orders to the publisher he corresponds with, so as to encourage and forward the important enterprise, which is no doubt marked with the greatest sacrifices of time and money by scientific men like Drysdale and Dudgeon. What a difference it will be for such as have been depending on fabrications stitched together to make a living, and by publishers for money's sake. How different a concern will it be from one manufactured by impudence, printed as a humbug, and recommended by ignorance, and by ignorance only.

" C. Hg."

No one can be more delighted than we are at the announcement of a work that promises to enrich our literature, and aid ourselves and our brethren in practice ; and no one can entertain a higher admiration, or hold a stronger opinion of the talents and abilities of the gentlemen mentioned above ; and from what we have seen of their labors, we should think few men better qualified than they for the undertaking in question. We are therefore glad to hear of the work, glad to unite in commending it, and shall be glad to *buy* it when it is ready. Still we cannot but think that it would be in much better taste to recommend the book without the invidious and injurious comparisons, and the sweeping and emphatic charge of "*ignorance, and ignorance only*," against the gentlemen who recommend what to them seemed a good book, and of necessity the best, since it had no rival in the book mart, at the time of its publication. The book alluded to, and the men recommending the book, we supposed to be those in the following communications.

RECOMMENDATIONS

TO

JAHR'S NEW MANUAL: originally published under the name of *Symptomen-Codex*. (Digest of Symptoms.) This work is intended to facilitate a comparison of the parallel symptoms of the various Homœopathic agents, thereby enabling the practitioner to discover the characteristic symptoms of each drug, and to determine with ease and correctness what remedy is most homœopathic to the existing group of symptoms. Translated, with important and extensive additions from various sources, by Charles Julius Hempel, M. D., assisted by James M. Quin, M. D., with revisions and clinical notes by John F. Gray, M. D.; contributions by Drs. A. Gerald Hull, George W. Cook, and Dr. B. F. Joslin, of New York; and Drs. C. Hering, J. Jeanes, C. Neidhard, W. Williamson, and J. Kitchen of Philadelphia; with a preface by Constantine Hering, M. D. 2 vols. Bound 1848, \$14, and with the *complete Repertory* or the 3d volume, \$20 00.

"There is no better, nor more complete work, than this American Jahr (*Symptomen-Codex*), either in Germany, France or England. It has not only been enriched with all the new matters contained in Noack and Trink's, but also with a number of important additions, corrections and revisions. It is, without an exception, the most useful work in Homœopathic practice, of any in existence. A more complete and useful work cannot possibly be offered at the present time. The American Jahr has been arranged with a truly republican impartiality; nothing has been left out, or admitted to suit the opinions of any particular man; nor have the arbitrary notions of self-styled critics been heeded; the pathogenesis of every remedy is described so far as it is known, and the practitioner may use it according to his best discretion."

Philadelphia.

CONSTANTINE HERING, M. D.

From the British Journal of Homœopathy, No. XXII.

The individual symptoms have been carefully compared with the "MATERIA MEDICA PURA." Those which were defective have been revised; and others which were inaccurate, from their condensation, have been given more at length. Many new medicines which have been recently proved, are added, among which we are glad to find that the Bichromate of Potash has not been forgotten. The reprovings of the old medicines, which have appeared in the Austrian Homœopathic Journal, are likewise carefully digested, and incorporated in the present work. (*Symptomen-Codex*) The value of this is too apparent to need comment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

TO

THE COMPLETE REPERTORY, the third volume of Jahr's New Manual or of the Homœopathic Materia Medica, (can be used as separate work.) By Charles J. Hempel, M. D. 1224 pages. 1853, Bound \$6 00, for all three volumes \$17 00.

From the British Journal of Homœopathy. No. XLVI.

"The two volumes of Jahr's Larger Materia Medica were incomplete without a Repertory, and accordingly, the indefatigable translator of the Symptomen-Codex, Dr. Hempel, has been busily engaged in constructing such a much-needed key to the work ever since its issue from the press. We now have before us the result of his incessant labors, in the shape of a portly volume of upwards of 1200 pages, for which he deserves the best thanks of the homœopathic body at large. This volume will be a great acquisition to all the practitioners of our art, as it will facilitate very much their search for the appropriate remedy.—We have already made extensive use of it; thanking Dr. Hempel most heartily for his repertory, we commend it confidently to our English colleagues. It will be found useful by all, whether they possess the two volumes of the Symptomen-Codex or no; and, it will in many cases guide the practitioner to the ready discovery of an appropriate remedy, when all the other works hitherto published in our language would leave him in the lurch."

We are permitted to make the following extract from a letter of Doctor Helmuth, dated Dec. 20th 1852, and addressed to Doctor Hempel:

Philadelphia, Dec. 20, 1852.

CHAS. J. HEMPEL, Esq., M. D.,

Dear Sir,—

"From the hasty examination which I had time to give your Repertory, I was favorably impressed with its worth, and spoke in its commendation to my class.

As the profession becomes familiar with its use, I believe its utility will be appreciated. Those who have an imperfect knowledge only of the Mat. Med. Pura and have associated symptoms in empirical groups, will not be able to understand it—and will certainly condemn it. Among that number, doubtless will be found your would-be critic.

I trust that such miserable efforts will not operate in the slightest degree to slacken you zeal in the cause of Homœopathy, to the

advancement of which you have already so materially contributed.
I remain your, &c.,

WILLIAM S. HELMUTH, M. D.,
No. 235 Pine street.

MR. WILLIAM RADDE,

Dear Sir,—

I look upon your Repertory of the "Homœopathic Materia Medica, by Charles J. Hempel, M. D.," as a valuable accession to the literature of our school.

I use it almost daily in my practice, and have frequently been able to find the symptom or group of symptoms wished for in a few minutes on its pages, after having for a much longer time searched in vain through the older repertories.

The difference in arrangement from other works of the kind in common use makes a little experience with this one necessary, in order to become familiar with the classification of its symptoms.

Without insisting on its claim to completeness or the absolute perfection of the work in every particular, sufficient evidence of intrinsic merit is apparent as a whole, to entitle the translator and compiler to the thanks of the profession for the immense labor and patient toil bestowed on its construction, and the publisher to ample compensation by an extensive sale, for his liberal outlay.

Very respectfully,

Philadelphia, Nov. 18, 1853.

W. WILLIAMSON, M. D.

Philadelphia, Nov. 19, 1853.

WM. RADDE, Esq.,

Dear Sir,—

It affords me great pleasure to assure you, that I have been using the "Repertory of the Materia Medica by C. J. Hempel," published by yourself, since its first issue from the press, and although at first I was not so favorably impressed with the arrangement of the work, yet as I have very often referred to it, and always with satisfaction and profit, I am now free to confess, that I prize the work as the best in the English language. I have ever found it reliable, and since becoming familiar with its arrangement, I regard it the best practical guide yet offered to the homœopathic profession in this country. If not absolutely perfect, I am not disposed to be hypercritical upon the word "*complete*," evidently used by the author in a restricted sense. Hoping, sir, that the author will receive a rich reward for his labors, and you, sir, as the publisher, will be extensively patronized, I am

Very respectfully, yours,

A. E. SMALL, M. D.

Philadelphia, Nov. 23, 1853.

DR. HEMPEL,

My Dear Sir,—

I do not think that I have sufficiently examined your "Repre-

tory," to give a decided opinion. From what I have read of it, however, I can say that I consider it a work of merit, and decidedly of use to physicians commencing the practice of Homœopathy. As to the criticisms, which have been published against it, I can at present say nothing, except that it is much easier to pull down than to build up.

Your truly,

JAMES KITCHEN, M. D.,
215 Spruce street.

Philadelphia, Nov. 23, 1853.

TO WILLIAM RADDE, Esq.,
Sir,—

I have examined "The Repertory to the Symptomen-Codex," and feel free to give you my testimony in its favor. How near the book approaches to completeness, remains to be proven only by the experience of those who resort to it for information. That it approaches nearer to completeness than any work of the kind, previously published in the English language, cannot be denied, and I believe it will serve as a valuable assistant to the Homœopathic physician, until the resources of our Materia Medica will be so far increased, that a new and more extensive compilation will be demanded.

Yours, very respectfully,

WILLIAM A. GARDINER, M. D.

Philadelphia, Nov. 25, 1853.

CHARLES J. HEMPEL, M. D.,

Dear Sir,—

Having read a most violent attack upon your "Repertory," and knowing from good authority the source from which it originated, I feel myself called upon to give you and our colleagues my opinion with regard to the merits of your Repertory.—It appears that your assailant found great fault with the word "complete." This word has in my opinion no other meaning, than to express, that, as a Repertory in connexion with the Symptomen-Codex with which it forms a complete Manual for the practice of Homœopathy, there is nothing of importance omitted in the Repertory, which is contained in the Symptomen-Codex. In the true sense of the word, no one is able to furnish a complete Repertory, for at the completion of the work many new symptoms and drugs might have been introduced. Besides you are charged with having omitted many medicines under their respective heads; this may appear so to persons who never studied the work, and only looked into it for the purpose of ridiculing it.—It is very strange your critic, if he may be so called, did not say a single word in favor of any part of your Repertory, he even did not mention the great toil and labor bestowed upon the work. But, dear sir, I am fully convinced, that by far the greater portion of the profession will look with disgust upon such onslaughts,

the true motive of which appears to be personal hatred towards you. Such colossal works like your Repertory are very seldom perfect, and considering the great superiority it commands over all others in either language, some imperfections, if their be any, might well be overlooked, and communicated to the author privately, or if publicly, in a friendly style. Ever since your Repertory was issued, it has been my daily adviser, has never failed to assist me, and has also saved me a great deal of time. Hoping, dear sir, that you Repertory will meet with much esteem, I have the honor to be,

Respectfully yours,

GEO. DUHRING, M. D.

Philadelphia, Nov. 26, 1853.

WILLIAM RADDE, ESQ.,

Dear Sir,—

You ask my opinion of the “Repertory, by Dr. Hempel,” in connection with the New Manual, (or Symptomen-Codex.) I have seen the time when I should have considered the work entire, (three volumes,) as a treasure not to be parted with, unless it could be replaced by others—and no less at this time. Where is the man that would have undertaken the work, but Dr. Hempel? and admitting it does contain some imperfections, which I have not sufficient discernment to discover, it is of great value, and should be in the hands of every Homœopathic practitioner of medicine. I place a high estimation upon the entire work, no less on the Repertory than the two preceding volumes—and until a better can be produced, shall consider it a safe guide to govern me in my prescriptions to the sick.

Respectfully, Yours, &c.,

RICHARD GARDINER, M. D.

Philadelphia, Nov. 24, 1853.

MR. WILLIAM RADDE, New York,

Sir,—

Having been requested by Mr. Rademacher to give an opinion as to the merit of your “Repertory of the Homœopathic Materia Medica, translated and arranged by C. J. Hempel, M. D.”—I can with truth say, that I consider it by very far the best Repertory I have ever used or seen, and that until a better one is published, I would by no means be without it. It has saved me many hours of research, and has very seldom failed to satisfy my expectations.

The difference in arrangement from various other works of a similar character, makes it necessary to have some experience in its use, before becoming familiar with the classification of the symptoms. And finally, without considering it perfect, (which I presume no one would expect in the present state of our science,) I

yet consider it as a whole, to possess sufficient intrinsic merit to entitle it to the confidence of the Homœopathic Physicians throughout the U. S., and you to their thanks, for enabling them to procure it.

I am, very respectfully, Yours, &c.,

J. R. COXE, JR., M. D.

MR. RADDE,

Dear Sir,—

Having carefully examined several communications in the Philadelphia Journal of Homœopathy, in relation to "Dr. Hempel's Repertory," and believing them to be a studied effort on the part of several individuals to injure its sale, I deem it an act of justice to say, that I believe it to be the best work of the kind in the English language, and that it will be not only a valuable aid to the student, but greatly facilitate the practitioner of Homœopathy in the selection of remedies in the treatment of disease.

The profession are under great obligation to Dr. Hempel for furnishing them with so valuable a work. The objections that have been raised against it are of no practical importance, being of mere minor consideration, and are as little worthy of regard as the *motive* that prompted those who made them, to try and injure one who had devoted so much time and labor to the interests of Homœopathy. The profession are under greater obligations to Dr. Hempel than almost any other man, and it is but a matter of duty to rebuke those who seek to injure him.

With great respect, I remain yours,

Philadelphia, Nov. 25, 1853.

WM. STILES, M. D.

Philadelphia, Nov. 29, 1853.

C. J. HEMPEL, M. D.

Dear Sir,—

I have examined your new "Repertory" with much care, and I am happy to recommend it as a work eminently calculated to facilitate the labors of students as well as of practising physicians, in referring both to particular symptoms and the remedies calculated to meet those symptoms.

I believe it to be unequalled in this by any work of the kind published in America.

Yours, very truly,

M. SEMPLE, M. D.

Prof. of Chem. and Tox. Hom. Med. Col., Pa.

MR. RADDE,

Dear Sir,—

I have been requested to give my opinion of "Dr. Hempel's Repertory." It supplies, in my estimation, a desideratum which

entitles its author and publisher to the thanks of the whole Homœopathic school, and exhibits an amount of labor and research, which few men besides the indefatigable author would have been willing to undertake. I should consider no Homœopathic Library complete without it.

Very respectfully, Yours, &c.,

Philadelphia, Nov. 29, 1853. ROBT. T. EVANS, JR., M. D.

I fully approve of the arrangement of the Repertory of Jahr's Manual, by Dr. Hempel, after the manner of that meritorious compiler, Rueckert.

New York, February, 1854.

JOHN F. GRAY.

MR. WM. RADDE,

I have frequently consulted the "Repertory of the Homœopathic Materia Medica," so ably compiled by Dr. Hempel, and do not hesitate to commend it to the attention of the adherents of Homœopathy.

If the *Systematische Darstellung* of Dr. Rueckert deserved the approbation it attained at the time of its issue, the more extended and affluent gatherings of Dr. Hempel render his Repertory a serviceable contribution to Homœopathic literature.

New York.

A. GERALD HULL, M. D.

C. J. HEMPEL, M. D.

Dear Sir,—

It gives me pleasure to express an opinion respecting the excellence and utility of your "Repertory of the Homœopathic Materia Medica."

Much labor and care has evidently been bestowed upon the work, and I have no doubt that every student and physician may derive great advantage from a frequent perusal of it.

Permit me also, in this connection, to tender you my cordial thanks for the great benefits you have conferred upon our school, through your unremitting literary labor.

Truly yours,

New York, Feb. 21, 1854.

E. E. MARCY, M. D.

Dr. Hempel's labors as a translator, are Herculean, and it may be justly said that to him, Homœopathy owes its English dress, since the treasures of the German text-books have been opened to the English and American student almost solely by his indefatigable pen.

His Repertory is an elaborate practical index to the Materia Medica, and the only complete work of the kind in our language.

New York, Feb. 21, 1854.

J. T. CURTIS, M. D.

To WM. RADDE, ESQ.,

Dear Sir,—

I have used Hempel's Repertory almost from the first day of its publication, and I am more and more pleased with it the more I use it. I make frequent reference to it, not only for assistance against the daily exigencies of medical practice, but in the composition of the medical work in which I have been for some time engaged, I am almost always sure to find the very information that I require. I have frequently quoted in my Treatises on Headache, Apoplexy, and Diseases of Females, and shall continue to quote it in forthcoming books.

The industry, and command of the English language, possessed by Dr. Hempel, are truly wonderful.

Yours, very truly,

J. C. PETERS.

Having now these "grossly ignorant men" before us in full uniform, we might be fairly excused for asking who "C. Hg." is? Is it risking too much to identify these letters with Constantine Hering? We are justified in this conclusion by the other articles in the paper to which the same letters are signed. This being a settled point, it seems rather remarkable to find the doctor stultifying himself, by condemning in such unmeasured terms what he had lauded to the skies; for the "first hundred mistakes" are all to be gathered from the very book *so well* recommended above. To those who have read "Dudgeon's Lectures," it will seem not a little surprising to see Dr. Hering *now* sitting at Dudgeon's feet, "eating humble pie" with becoming modesty and quietness of demeanor:—thanks to "Isopathy!" It reminds us of the position of a very naughty and eccentric boy, who, after he has been playing truant, and hunting butterflies in the sunny fields—

"That idle chase of hopes and fears,
Begun in folly, closed in tears."

- gets well chidden and severely reprimanded on his return to his duty, and quietly sits down, with every mark of profound respect and veneration, at the elbow of the tutor who had administered a sound but deserved castigation. And this is much to the credit of all parties. It appears also, somewhat inconsistent to charge the authors of the condemned book with mercenary motives, and a cor-

rupt mode of getting their "living," when we find by documents, &c., handed to us by the publishers, that for the fourth edition of his "*Domestic Physician*," the doctor received from them, Sept. 8th, 1847, *four hundred dollars*, and G. F. Knorr, for compiling and writing, *one hundred dollars*. And for the fifth edition of the same book, Dr. Hering received, Nov. 30th, 1850, *six hundred dollars*, and the late Dr. Esrey, for compiling, correcting, expurgating, enlarging and writing it, *one hundred dollars*! Alas, poor Esrey! Alas, overwrought genius! Alas, ill-rewarded toil! But let humbug be anathema! Let cunning be accursed!—when it *glorifies* itself—when it *enriches* itself at the expense of the peaceful, unsuspecting children of talent and toil; whom consumption, the fruit of late watching and overtasked brain, claims for his prey before half their days! Out of that contemptible combination of ignorance and superstition, created at Allentown, Pa., in 1835, Knorr and Esrey *make* a book, receive two hundred dollars—Hering puts his name on the title page and cover, and pockets ONE THOUSAND dollars! And where now is Knorr? where is Esrey? and where is Hering? Where the first is we do not know—the second sleeps in that quiet resting place which awaits all the children of men—peace be with his ashes! But the third is *at the head of "The News,"* at the *tail* of the above paragraph, dealing out his charges of mercenary motives by wholesale, against every author and publisher he considers in his way; dealing out his unqualified charges of "ignorance, and ignorance only," against the men whose names are given above;—at the head of a would-be "*free and independent college*," making use of the students of that Native Institution, which he labors to overthrow, as "*decoy ducks*," in order to form, in his intriguing and underhand way, a nucleus for his fictitious "college," by holding out to them the bait of *free lectures*! Who is this man who dares to pour this unqualified contempt upon the best blood of the land, the best talent of our school, the best bulwark of our profession? Why, it is Dr. Constantine Hering, whose ignorance of medical science was such in 1835, as any nurse in any hospital might well be ashamed of! who, during the interim, has picked up those disjointed fragments of knowledge for which alone he is remarkable; who, while making money and "reputation," such as it is, by the treatment of disease, acquired some knowledge of physic as an art.

"CALUMNIATOREM SUA PŒNA MANET."


JUST PUBLISHED, AND FOR SALE BY RADEMACHER AND SHEEK.

WAR, CHOLERA,

AND

THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH,

AN APPEAL TO SIR BENJAMIN HALL AND THE BRITISH PEOPLE. BY JAMES JOHN GARTH WILKINSON, M. D., AUTHOR OF THE "HUMAN BODY AND ITS CONNECTION WITH MAN." FROM THE LONDON EDITION. 80 OCTAVO PAGES. PRICE 25 c.

 On the receipt of 30 c. in post-stamps the work will be sent pre-paid. A dozen copies will be mailed, pre-paid on the receipt at \$2.75, 6 copies at \$1.39. As there is no recent work more suitable for general circulation to make a favorable impression on laymen of the truth of the principle of the Homœopathic Law of Cure, it would be well if every Homœopathic practitioner would contribute in giving this valuable work as extensive a circulation as possible.

CONTENTS OF THE ABOVE WORK:

Old Physic has the Cholera.—The Doctors directing Physic.—Homœopathy succeeds admirably.—The old Bogs of Allopathy.—Fatal Decrees of Allopathy.—Moral Fragrance of the Times.—Must crumpled up.—Great Acquaintances.—The expectant School expecting.—Allopathy's Complaints.—The Horrors of Decillions.—Allopathy envies Fancy.—Allopathy troubles Consciences.—Homœopathy tackles acute Diseases.—Only one Way of trying Homœopathy.—Hahnemann creates *Materia Medica*.—What Hahnemann has done.—Old Physic pesters Parliament.—My Medical Bill.—Medical Toleration.—Medical Free Trade.—Medicine uncramped.—The Lawyers find out Old Physic.—Homœopathy lays Hands on Surgery.—Surgeon Herbs unknown to Surgeons.—The Poor freed from Hobson's Choice.—Old Physic and the Laughter Cure.—Homœopathy calls Witnesses.—Agitation not good for Conservatism.—Mothers' Prospects look up.—Nurses in the Witness Box.—A Lady's Contumacy.—Master dismisses Old Physic.—What a Board of Healing is and does.—Spurs for Doctors.—Old Physic dreads skilful Mothers.—Homœopathic Rhus stops 30,000 Colds.—Board of Health ignores Rhus.—Arnica tends wounded Thousands.—Homœopathy prevents Cholera.—Board of Health ignores Homœopathy.—Homœopathy cures Cholera.—Homœopathy cures Sea-sick Armies.—Homœopathy cures Ague and Fever.—Arnica cures the Moll of Fatigue.—Old Physic can't give General Orders.—Homœopathy can give General Orders.—Woman and Homœopathy.—Doctor Elizabeth Blackwell.—The Ladies in the Field.—Florence Nightingale.—Doctor Smith's Beatitudes.—Old Physic against the Russians.—The Pharisee butters his Victim.—The more Haste the worse Speed.—Old Physic spends Four Million of ours.—Priceless Worth of one Specific.—Grief has its Tides.—Ignatia heals Wounds of Sorrow.—Old Physic leaves the Mind out. Old Physic leaves the World out.—Homœopathy sits with the Age.—Decrees for the Health Minister.—Health Minister wins his Spurs.—The Country's Industry thanks him.—He summons the Board of Health.—Natural Death reappears.—The Earth chimes in.—State Medicine is born.—Ancient Wisdom speaks.—The Wolf is bound.—The Health Minister on Pishah.—Only let us do our duty.—Appendix.

NOTICE.

As only a few copies of the SYMPTOMEN CODEX, by Charles Julius Hempel, M. D., 2 vols., are on hand, the former price of \$11 00 has been raised to \$14 00. The price of the Repertory remains unchanged, \$6 00. Those Physicians not already supplied with this valuable work will therefore do well to order a copy immediately.

WILLIAM RADDE, Publisher.

New York, Sept. 1, 1855.

TRACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

The Publishers beg to announce that they will commence this month the publication of a Series of

POPULAR TRACTS ON HOMŒOPATHY

for general distribution among all classes of the people. They respectfully urge this matter upon the attention of Physicians and the friends of the New School, as the best and most certain means of diffusing accurate information upon a subject in which every member of the community is deeply interested.

Tract No. 1, (containing 8 pages, on the Progress of Medical Science,) is now ready, and will be furnished, free of postage,

At \$2 00 per Hundred Copies.

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — DECEMBER, 1855. — No. IX.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

(Continued from page 352.)

MEDICAL TREATMENT OF THE INSANE.

After the most judicious moral treatment has been brought to bear upon the insane, a resort to remedial agents in the form of homœopathic medicines may have a beneficial effect; but certain conditions of the physical system have to be noted, in precisely the same way as in persons of sound mind.

The remedies for the most part employed in the homœopathic treatment of the insane, are *Aconite*, *Agaricus*, *Antimonium*, *Argentum*, *Arnica*, *Arsenicum*, *Aurum*, *Belladonna*, *Calcarea*, *Camphor*, *Cannabis*, *Cantharis*, *Carbo animalis*, *Chamomilla*, *Cicuta*, *Cocculus*, *Conium*, *Crocus*, *Crotalus*, *Cuprum*, *Digitalis*, *Dulcamara*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Kali carb.*, *Lachesis*, *Ledum palustre*, *Lycopodium*, *Mercurius*, *Mezereum*, *Moschus*, *Natrum muriaticum*, *Nux moschata*, *Nux vomica*, *Opium*, *Phosphorus*, *Phosphoric acid*, *Platina*, *Pulsatilla*, *Rhus tox*, *Silicea*, *Stramonium*, *Sulphur* and *Veratrum*.

This may seem like a long list of remedies, but a little reflection will serve to render it probable in every one's mind, that many remedies will be required to meet the various deranged conditions of the insane.

Aconite, when there is fear of death, anguish with apprehensive and trembling state of mind, and bitter wailing; great tendency to start, sensitive and irritable mood, alternations of merry singing, or warbling and whining mood, raving and gesticulation, especially at night.

Agaricus, when there is no disposition to talk. Timorous craziness.

Antimonium c., when there is loathing of life, with disposition to shoot or drown one's self.

Argentum, noisy mania and craziness, hypochondriasis, gloominess.

Arsenicum, excessive anxiety and restlessness driving one to and fro in the day time, and out of bed at night, especially in the evening, after lying down; dread of being alone, fear of death, or mania of suicide, crazy.

Arnica, hypochondriac anxiety, frivolity.

Aurum, melancholy, irresistible desire to weep, anguish increasing into suicide, despair of one's self and others, disposed to grumble and quarrel, vehement and disposed to fly into a passion.

Belladonna, raging mania, head-strong, hypochondriac, lowness of spirits, anguish and restlessness, tremulous despondency, disposition to escape.

Calcareia, vehement and irracible with disposition to censure and find fault, weeping mood, anxiety, tendency to start, out of humor obstinate, aversion to others.

Camphor, whining anxiety, disposition to quarrel.

Cannabis, mania, at times merry, at others serious, and at others raging.

Cantharis, whining, and low spirited, great restlessness, rage with cries, barking, striking, hydrophobic mania.

Carbo animalis, full of fright in the evening, tendency to start.

Chamomilla, when there is great moaning and tossing about, vexed and whining mood, with crying.

Cicuta, mania with dancing, laughing and foolish gesticulation.

Cocculus, melancholy, sad, reverie after being crossed, apprehensive anguish, fear of death, disposition to feel offended.

Ccnium, hysteric mania, characterized by anxiety, out of spirits, hypochondriac indifference, indolent and discouraged, vexed and irritable, confused thoughts with mania.

Crocus, merry gesticulating mania with pale face, vehement, angry, alternate harshness and kindness of disposition, forgetful and absent minded.

Crotalus, when there is lowness of spirits, with indifference to every thing, anguish and restlessness, melancholy, quarrelsome.

Cuprum, for fits of craziness characterized by thoughts about

some imaginary business, or by merry singing or sullen, and tricky disposition, generally accompanied by quick pulse, red inflamed eyes, wild look and followed by sweat ; rage, confusion of ideas.

Digitalis, when there is anguish, especially in the evening with whining mood, apprehensions for the future.

Dulcamara, when there is internal uneasiness and nightly delirium, impatience and disposition to dispute without being vexed.

Hyoscyamus, when there are distress and dread of men and disposition to escape during the night, inclination to laugh at everything, loquacious and given to jealousy.

Kalicarbi., when there is tendency to start, and an irritable mood.

Lachesis, for crazy jealousy, faultfinding, malicious, nightly delirium, mental alienation after chagrin, or after excessive studies, religious mania.

Ledum palustre, when there are misanthropy, peevishness and ill humor.

Lycopodium, when there are obstinancy and impeded activity of the mind.

Mercurius viv., when there are obstinacy, impatience and mania, illusions of the fancy, delirium, mental alienation of drunkards.

Mezereum, when there is ill humor, dullness of intellect, frequent vanishing of ideas.

Moschus, for hypochondriasis with palpitation of the heart ; stupifaction as if intoxicated.

Natrum muriaticum, when there are apathy, vehemency, and alternations of good and ill humor.

Nux moschata, when there is disposition to laugh at every thing, alternations of seriousness and laughter.

Nux vomica, anguish and restlessness, frequently attended with palpitation of the heart, and mania of suicide, irritable, artful, malicious, and quarrelsome, mania from drunkenness.

Opium, tendency to start, illusions of fancy, mania with strange fancies, rage.

Phosphorus, anxious and uneasy when alone ; hypochondriac, loss of shame, dread of labor, irritable.

Phos. acid. Sad, anxious for the future, apathy.

Platina, mental derangement after fright or illness.

Pulsatilla, depression of spirits, dread of company, whimsical, especially suited to persons of mild disposition and females.

Rhus tox., when there are mania of suicide, illusions of fancy, and mental alienation.

Silicea, when there is want of cheerfulness, fixed ideas upon some unimportant point, gloominess, careworn countenance.

Stramonium, when there is melancholy, hurried movements, loud laughter, indomitable rage and mania, with an inexhaustible variety of fanciful visions, lascivious talk, conversation with spirits, affectation of proud and haughty manners, dancing, constant alternatives of ludicrous gesticulations and sad, serious gestures.

Sulphur, when the patient is obstinate, irritable, peevish, fretful, or full of fancies, philosophical and religious, and when the mania is such that the patient fancies himself in possession of all sorts of beautiful objects.

Veratrum, mental alienation with singing, moving about to and fro, having the appearance of much business, laughing, whistling; sometimes violent and ill-humored.

In the medical treatment of the insane, the general condition of the nutritive functions has to be noted as well as that of the animal functions, and the same rule may be observed in the prescribing remedies for the insane, as for the sane in this respect. If there is fever, indigestion, disease of the kidneys, or any other functional derangement, the same remedies may be required, without regard to the mental alienation as in other cases.

DIET AND REGIMEN.—The diet of the insane should be plain, without excitants, such as stimulating condiments, malt liquors, wines or alcoholic beverages in general; coffee should be prohibited as well as tobacco, opium, and other agents that excite or depress the nervous system; freedom of exercise in the open air as well as judicious bathing, should be encouraged.

MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR LOSS OF MIND, IMBECILITY.—The following remedies may be consulted:

Anacardium, *Argentum n.*, *Belladonna*, *Calcarea*, *Helleborus*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lachesis*, *Opium*, *Sepia*, *Sulphur*, *China*.

Anacardium, when there is an awkward and silly demeanor, laughing at serious things, weakness of memory and mind, inability to collect the ideas.

Argentum nit., suitable for persons that have become imbecile from epilepsy, when there appears to be absence of thought, as if stupid, foolish demeanor, silly laughing and murmurs, with appearances of grimaces or closing the eyes in the day time.

Belladonna, when imbecility has supervened upon an attack of insanity, when there is forgetfulness, absence of thoughts, confusion of ideas.

Calcarea carb., when there is loss of mental consciousness, obstinacy, thoughtlessness, and when the imbecility has resulted from intemperance, which has first produced *mania-a-potu*, and a talking about dogs, rats and mice.

Helleborus, dulness of the inner sense, dulness of sense, with thoughtless staring to one point, weak memory, imbecility, after an acute attack of scarlatina, or attending a dropsical diathesis.

Hyoscyamus, congenital imbecility, or lascivious mania and ludicrous gesticulations, loss of memory, does not recollect any thing, no power to direct the thoughts, absence of ideas.

Lachesis, weak memory, forgets that which is just spoken, mistakes the time, mind worn out with study.

Opium, congenital idiocy, when there is complete stupifaction, loss of mind from intoxication.

China, when there is loss of mind, occasioned by loss of blood or debility.

Sulphur and *Sepia* are remedies that may have a beneficial effect in dotage attendant upon old age.

When the cause of mental imbecility is known, this may have some bearing in the selection of a remedy, as for instance, when arising from scarlatina, *Sulph.* and *Phos.*; when occasioned by a blow, or concussion of the brain, *Arnica*.

The condition of the system has to be noted in the adaptation of a treatment, for, aside from the imbecility, the symptoms of diseased action may be precisely the same as in ordinary cases, and this fact would argue the propriety of resorting to the same kind of treatment, or rather to the same remedies as are ordinarily found serviceable in common deranged conditions.

For the treatment of that kind of imbecility common to old age, nothing proves more advantageous to the patient than the utmost care and attention to his wants when he suffers from an attack of a cold, administer for his relief, when from diarrhoea pain in the head, or any local suffering whatever, administer such remedies, as will prove most likely to relieve him.

DIET.—The diet and regimen for idiots and those suffering from imbecility, must be plain and nutritious, rich gravies and fat meats,

must be avoided, fruits may be allowed *ad libitum*. Ablutions at regular seasons are to be commended, as well as judicious bathing, when there is no physical infirmity that would render it improper.

HYPOCHONDRIASIS.

This difficulty, for the most part, is classed among the neuroses as an affection separate and distinct from what we have been considering. But, in strict propriety, it cannot be separated from mental alienation. Without doubt it is a form of monomania—at least it has been so regarded by nearly all the modern writers upon the subject. There are, however, some who are still disposed to class it with dyspepsia, with which it is undoubtedly often associated.

In our former article, allusion was made to hypochondriacal monomania, where the subjects imagined they had some live animal within them. It is characteristic of monomaniacs to have the mind fixed upon some imaginary difficulty which they dread, and this being the ever present, characteristic of hypochondriasis, would seem to argue the propriety of regarding the disease as being identical with that form of mental alienation termed monomania.

This kind of monomania, however, consists of a constant dread of diseases conjured up by the imagination, the most melancholy forebodings, as well as the most painful attention to real sufferings, which very frequently are of the most trifling character.

During the prevalence of some fearful endemic disease—such as cholera or yellow fever—it has been observed that a certain class of persons becomes fearfully alarmed, and they appear to be constantly anticipating an attack; and whatever ailment befalls them, however slight, they are apt to magnify it into that form of disease which they so much dread. Some become afflicted with the dread of hydrophobia, and become mad upon the subject; others really believe themselves in constant danger of some other fatal malady. Many singular examples of the *hydrophobic mania* have been recorded. The following has been recorded as a veritable fact:—two brothers were bitten by a rabid dog at the same time in England. One of them set off for America soon afterwards, where he resided for twenty years. After this he returned to his native country, and on learning that his brother, who had been bitten at the same time with himself, had died with every symptom of hydrophobia, his imagination became so wrought upon that he died soon afterwards with similar symptoms.

The symptoms of hypochondriasis are astonishingly diversified, and for the most part exist along with the healthy play of various functions. At other times there is considerable functional disease. There may be disordered digestion, a torpid action of the liver, or some derangement of the functions of some of the other organs, whereupon the fears of the patient overcome his reason, and he imagines the most trivial symptom to be of the greatest moment. A slight flatulency, or distension of the stomach or abdomen may amount, in his imagination, to a positive inflammation of the most serious character, working great mischief in the abdominal viscera. The slightest irregularity in the movement of the bowels, or the slightest modification in the character of the evacuations, may occasion him the greatest anxiety, and dread of some impending disease of a more formidable character, or perhaps of death, which he imagines is staring him in the face. In this way he is made perpetually miserable.

Nothing has been elicited from morbid anatomy at all calculated to throw any light upon the nature of this malady, but from the phenomena that usually attend it, the conclusion has been arrived at, that some inappreciable morbid change in the encephalon is the immediate cause of the disease.

TREATMENT.—This of course must be based upon the same principles laid down under mental alienation. At the commencement, the treatment must be moral, but it is to be borne in mind, that it is not best to rudely contradict the patient's notion concerning his bodily diseases. It is believed to be better to fall in with them, and prescribe for their removal. Exercise in the open air, riding on horseback, and especially the exercise afforded by travelling, and coming in contact with different scenes, that new impressions may be constantly engendered, are to be commended; gymnastic exercises are also advisable when the patient's general health is such as to admit of them. It is a well known fact that the hypochondriac is averse to all exertion, and if left to his own inclination, he would dwell upon, and brood over his imaginary evils, and thus render his ideas more decidedly confirmed, and, of course, more difficult to eradicate. But by efforts of a judicious character, he may be induced to move about, to go from home, or to engage in harmless amusements that give exercise to the body, and, at the same time, afford mental occupation of a buoyant character.

There is not much that can be offered concerning the moral treatment of this unfortunate class of patients; it is a question properly belonging to the physician, who will find it necessary to use his tact and his powers of perception so as to understand how to modify his proceedings so as to meet the different characters of those he has to treat; the physician is thrown wholly upon himself, and that, too, in a moment; when he comes into the presence of a hypochondriac he will be interrogated by the patient upon subjects of the most delicate nature. The physician must be philosophical in his treatment of such cases, or otherwise he may not have sufficient adroitness to gain an influence over a mind that is disturbed, suspicious, and irritable, so as to have any beneficial effect. The really morbid phenomena that may manifest themselves in the hypochondriac, may indicate the employment of remedial agents to meet each individual case. It is believed that homœopathic remedies may be selected for given cases, in accordance with the symptoms manifested.

For diseases of the stomach in hypochondriacs, *Nux vomica*, *Cocculus*.

FIXED NOTIONS.—*Anacardium*, *Aurum*, *Belladonna*, *Cicuta*, *Cuprum*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Ignatia*, *Lachesis*, *Stramonium*.

FOREBODING OF DEATH.—*Belladonna*, *Lachesis*, *Nux vomica*, *Platina*, *Zincum*.

FOR ILLUSORY NOTIONS IN GENERAL.—*Aconitum*, *Arsenicum*, *Belladonna*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lachesis*, *Mercurius*, *Moschus*, *Nux vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, *Stramonium*, *Sulphur* and *Veratrum*.

If the patient fancies he is abandoned.—*Carbo animalis*, *Stramonium*.

If haunted with the idea of being a criminal.—*Hyoscyamus*.

If haunted with the idea of ghosts or demons.—*Arsenicum*, *Belladonna*.

If insane upon the condition of his stomach, imagining that it is ulcerated or corroded.—*Ignatia*, *Sabadilla*.

For melancholy in general.—*Arsenicum*, *Aurum*, *Helleborus*, *Lycopodium*, *Pulsatilla*, *Silicea*, *Sepia*, *Sulphur* and *Veratrum*.

For low spirits.—*Bryonia*, *Calcarea*, *China*, *Natrum*, *Sulphur*.

For RELIGIOUS MANIA.—*Belladonna*, *Crocus*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lachesis*, *Lycopodium*, *Pulsatilla*, *Stramonium* and *Sulphur*.

Hypochondriasis may be attended with so great a variety of

symptoms, that it would be impossible to enumerate all its phases, and the remedies applicable to each. The mind may become fixed in any imaginable idea, and whatever its nature may be, the corresponding remedy may be suggested.

The diet for hypochondriacs should be carefully selected to meet the condition of the digestive organs. All stimulants should be prohibited, especially those that only afford a temporary exhilaration of the animal spirits, for a corresponding depression will invariably follow their use.

DISEASES OF THE NERVES.

The diseases that affect the nerves so as to produce sensible modification of structure, as well as of function, afford something more tangible than the neuroses that we have been considering.

INFLAMMATION OF THE NERVES.

When the nerves are the subject of inflammation, the fact may be known by constant pain increased by pressure on the affected part; the pain may be augmented when the nerve is inflamed, but it does not occur in paroxysms, as it does in neuralgia. When any nerve is so situated that its course can be traced, the pain, in case of inflammation may be aggravated by pressing along the affected nerve, and the parts to which the nerve may be distributed become variously affected; muscles may become convulsed or paralyzed. There may be loss of vision, and of the sense of hearing, if the optic and auditory nerves are the seat of inflammation. Andral says, that inflammation of the *pneumo-gastric nerve* gives rise to whooping cough, or acute gastritis. The disease may either be acute or chronic.

Causes.—Neuritis may be induced by external violence, as by bruises or puncture; sometimes it supervenes upon surgical operations; bloodletting has sometimes given rise to the difficulty, but at other times it makes its appearance from causes within the system, which cannot be explained.

TREATMENT.—When a nerve has been injured by puncture or bruise, the application of a dilute tincture of *Aconite* or *Hypericum* to the part may prove of service.

Aconite may be administered internally when the inflammation is violent, and when there is reason to believe that the nerve may be affected, with hyperæmia, *Belladonna*, *Arnica* and *Hypericum* may be administered internally when the inflammation arises from a

mechanical difficulty; but when it arises from causes within the economy, *Belladonna*, *Cicuta* or *Conium*, may be administered after *Aconite*.

NEURALGIA, OR PAIN IN THE NERVES.

This disease, commonly termed *tic douloureux*, is one of the most painful to which humanity is subject. It consists essentially of a more or less acute, exacerbating, or intermittent pain, seated in the nerve, and shooting along its ramifications.

Symptoms.—The pain in neuralgia, in a majority of instances, occurs suddenly, though sometimes there is a slight sensation of itching, or of heat, or creeping numbness in the part, which in a gradual manner becomes more and more intense.

Then again, the paroxysm of neuralgia is preceded by a feeling of coldness and numbness, the pain for the most part is exceedingly acute and lancinating, taking place instantaneously, and extending along the nerves like an electrical shock. When the pain is at its height, it seems as if burning needles were thrust into the effected parts, after a time the agony diminishes, and is alternately succeeded by a sense of numbness, which remains until the pain returns. Exacerbations and remissions of pain take place at intervals until, alternately, the suffering becomes so that it can be endured, which was hardly the case when it was at the height of the paroxysm.

When the affected nerves are distributed to muscles slight twitchings will be observed in them, when the pain is protracted and severe, the heart and arteries may sympathize and beat with more force than usual, which is the result of suffering.

If the diseased nerve is distributed to secreting organs, their functions may become impaired, the permanent agitation of the muscles may give rise to involuntary catchings, which the French term *tics*, whence the name *tic douloureux*.

When the pain continues for a long time, it must inevitably give rise to constitutional disturbances, affecting the nutrition of the whole body, and the patient may become worn out and die of exhaustion. These extreme cases, however, are of rare occurrence.

It may be said of most cases, that a cure may be wrought by time and the employment of appropriate remedies; relapses are common until the habits of the body become such as to overcome all predisposition for them to return. During sleep, if the patient is fortunate enough to attain this state, his sufferings are usually suspended, the duration of the disease is uncertain, it may be ephemeral or it

may last for months and years. Cases of cure are recorded where the patient had been afflicted for ten or twelve years.

Neuralgia has received several names, according to its locality. It is termed *facial neuralgia* when the pain is felt in the frontal or supra orbital region, infra orbital and maillary regions. The *infra orbital* has received the name *tic douloureux*. It gives occasion at times to twitchings of the lower eye-lid cheeks and upper lip, and to agony almost beyond endurance.

Dental neuralgia is a form of *toothache*, but takes place when the teeth are apparently sound, with shooting along the jaw and along the nervous ramifications, so as to endure the extremest suffering.

Neuralgia sometimes affects the trunk following the course of the intercostal nerve, and hence is termed *intercostal neuralgia*; at other times it is seated in the parieties of the thorax, and hence termed thoracic neuralgia. It occasionally attacks the female mamma, so as to induce the suspicion of the existence of cancer, this is termed *mammary neuralgia*. One of the severest forms affects the nerves of the spermatic cord and the testes, extending to the nates and thighs, implicating the bladder, so as to give rise to frequent micturation, the *ileo scrotal neuralgia* descends from the lumbar region along the *psoas magnus* to the scrotum.

The nerves of both the upper and lower extremities may be equally affected with this disease, but it is more frequently met with in the latter. The *sciatic neuralgia* extends from the sciatic notch along the back part of the thigh to the ham, and thence it sometimes extends to the foot. It is frequently met with, in a slight degree during pregnancy.

These varieties, have, it will be seen, received special names, and without doubt many more might be enumerated.

There is a variety sometimes termed *false neuralgia*, occasioned by pressure upon a nerve, which will disappear when the pressure is removed.

Tumors in the pelvis may occasion pain along the sciatic nerve. Cases have been met with where syphilitic periostitis has produced the affection, as has been abundantly proved by relief being procured on the administration of mercury.

Causes.—The causes of this distressing malady are very obscure. There is, however, without doubt, a predisposition to the affection, of the precise nature of which we are altogether ignorant. Persons of a highly impressible nervous system are the most liable to the

affection. The disease is altogether neuropathic, although some authors have regarded it an inflammation, or rather an inflammatory action going in the nerve, but all the phenomena of the disease are adverse to the idea, and indicative of sufficient difference to discriminate between neuritis and neuralgia.

Neither very young nor very old persons are prone to suffer from the disease, some very curious differences with reference to age are observable, as respects the different forms of the disease. The infra-orbital is most commonly met with in adults, but in the aged the femoro-popliteal is more frequently observed.

Some authors have supposed that females are more susceptible to the disease than males, but this assertion fails of receiving that confirmation which is reliable, giving it the coloring of a fact. Both sexes appear to be equally subject to neuralgia of the face, while the sciatic neuralgia more frequently attacks men than women. When the system is very susceptible, as in some persons the most trivial circumstances may bring on an attack, a cold, moist wind, and sometimes the slightest breath of air may develop facial neuralgia of the most excruciating character. Even the touch of the razor will sometimes excite the most tormenting pain. In a state of predisposition to other forms of neuralgia, damp and cold may oftener prove the exciting causes than other circumstances. External injuries may cause neuralgia as well as neuritis. Though some maintain that neuritis always results from external injuries. The healing up of an old ulcer and leaving a cicatrice, it is said has occasioned neuralgia, and also when a patient has once suffered from the disease, almost any exertion, bodily or mental, may bring it on, if indulged in to excess.

Some of the most distressing cases of neuralgia on record have been caused by wounds, and frequently the pain may be experienced in the sentient extremities of nerves, at a considerable distance from the injured portion. And not unfrequently when we can find no cause near the seat of the pain, we may find some source of irritation distinct in the trunk of the nerve. Severe losses may predispose the system to neuralgia, such as happen from miscarriage, or any other cause that detracts from the nutrition of the system.

Morbid anatomy throws no light upon this disease that is at all worthy of attention, as all that has ever been elicited from post mortem appearances is rather of a negative than of a decisive character; doubtless there is some molecular change in the sub-

stance of the nerve, but not such as to indicate any thing with reference to treatment. All that serves as a guide in treatment are the symptoms of each individual case.

TREATMENT.—The homœopathic treatment of neuralgia requires the following group of remedies: *Aconite*, *Arsenicum*, *Aurum*, *Belladonna*, *Bryonia*, *Calc. carb.*, *China*, *Colocynthis*, *Lycopodium*, *Pulsatilla*, *Platina*, *Sepia*, *Spigelia*, *Sulphur* and, some others.

Aconite, when there is redness and pain in one side of the face, or pain in the teeth or maxillary region, without the presence of any decayed teeth.

Arsenicum, when there is apparently a periodicity in the attacks, and the pains are of a burning, pricking and rending character, and are experienced around the eyes, and occasionally in the temples, aggravated by cold, and temporarily relieved by heat.

Aurum, when the pains appear to be in the bones, and particularly when they occur after the excessive use of mercury or blue pills.

Belladonna, when there are darting pains in the cheek bones, jaws, nose or temples, or in the neck; twitches of the eyelids, and excruciating pain in the ball of the eye; for almost every form of face ache this remedy seems adapted.

China, when there is a tendency to periodicity in the attacks, and when there is extreme sensitiveness of the skin, and particularly when the disease has occurred after the system has become weakened by losses of blood, or acute disease.

Calc. carb., when there are twitchings of the lids, pressure in the eyes, tearing pains in the facial bones, pain in the teeth after taking a draught of cold water, or from exposure to a draught of cold air, digging pain like a sore, and beating.

Colocynthis, when there are violent rending and darting pains, which chiefly occupy the left side of the face, aggravated by the slightest touch, and extending to the head and temples.

Lycopodium, when the right side of the face seems to be the most affected, and also when there is a torpor and creeping pains extending towards the head and temples.

Pulsatilla, for facial neuralgia when there is a feeling of coldness, and torpor in the affected side of the face, with severe spasmodic pain in the cheek bone, with a sensation of crawling and aggravation or renewal of the suffering in the evening, and when in a state of rest; also when there are lacrymation, redness of the face, &c.

When neuralgia attends other difficulties, such as *prolapsus uteri*, *Sepia* and *Aurum* are worthy of attention. Neuralgia of the sciatic nerve may require the use of *Belladonna*, *Calcarea*, *Mercurius* or *Sulphur*. That which affects the lower extremities, *Bryonia*, *Rhus toxicodendron*, *Spigelia*, *Zincum*. *Spigelia* is also a useful remedy when the pain extends into the head, and is excruciating, aggravated by the slightest touch. For neuralgia of the skin, *Mercurius*. When there are acute and dragging pains in the hip joint, and a sensation of coldness in the part affected, and also when the pains appear to return periodically, *Arsenicum* is the remedy to be consulted. When the pains are aggravated at night, *Chamomilla*. When seated in the right hip, *Colocynthis*. When there are cutting pains on the slightest movement, *Ignatia*. When there is a sensation of stiffness of the limb, or sensation as if the limb were contracted, torpid or paralyzed, *Nux vomica*. *Rhus toxicodendron* is better suited when rest aggravates the suffering, and motion and warmth mitigates it. *Bryonia* is a good remedy when the neuralgia is in the right, upper and lower extremity.

DIET AND REGIMEN.—Patients suffering from neuralgia will often have an impaired appetite; the severity and duration of the pain may have produced some constitutional derangement. It is better under such circumstances to subsist upon a moderate diet, and one easy of digestion, and indeed one that will require hardly any labor of the digestive organs. All condiments must be avoided, such as vinegar, pepper, mustard, &c. When the patient's appetite remains, he may allow himself black tea, cocoa, and other non-medicinal drinks. When a warm room alleviates the suffering, it is best for the patient; but if heat aggravates his suffering, a moderately cold room is better. If rest relieve him, let him lie in bed, and if activity and motion contribute to his ease and comfort, let him enjoy them to the full extent.

ODOONTALGIA.

But little need be said by way of description of this malady, the affection is so common that but few have at all times been exempt from it.

The principal remedies employed to relieve aching teeth are, *Aconite*, *Arnica*, *Arsenicum*, *Belladonna*, *Chamomilla*, *Mercurius*, *Nux vomica*, *Pulsatilla* and *Sulphur*.

Aconite, when the toothache is accompanied by fever and heat

about the head, and when the toothache results from cold or from nervous excitement.

Arnica, when the pain is occasioned by a mechanical injury, as from extracting or plugging.

Arsenicum, when cold brings on a paroxysm, or aggravates the pain.

Belladonna, when from cold, there is severe pain in the teeth, involving the whole jaw, the pains extending off the side of the face and into the ear, and when the pain is aggravated by hot applications. When produced by coffee, *Chamomilla*, and also when attended by diarrhœa and flushed face, or swelling of one cheek, or when the pain extends into the ear, and worse when in the room than when out in the open air. *Mercurius viv.*, for pains in hollow teeth, worse in the morning; pain in the jaw bones. *Nux vomica*, when the toothache arises from cold, which at the same time affects the head and neck. *Pulsatilla*, suitable for persons of a mild, quiet, timid disposition, or for persons of a fretful temper, or when the toothache occurs in the spring, with earache and headache, and when it attends the menstrual period, and when the pains are of a jerking, tearing, or stinging character, or when cold air relieves the pain, or it is relieved by mastication. *Sulphur*, suitable for jumping pains in hollow teeth, swelling and bleeding of the gums.

When the toothache occurs from pregnancy, *Calc. carb.*, from nursing, *China*, from grief, *Ignatia*, &c. For ulceration of gums, *Mercurius*, *Selicea*, *Hepar sulp.*, *Calc.* and *Sulphur*.

Persons suffering from toothache should avoid holding hot or acrid substances in the mouth, and refrain from the use of Kreasote, oil of cloves, or any agent that interferes with the action of the remedies. When it becomes apparent that any exciting cause will bring on the toothache, it is best to guard against it, as much as possible; when coffee or tea, wine, or other stimulents excite pain in decayed teeth, they should be prohibited.

PARTIAL PARALYSIS, OR PARALYSIS OF CERTAIN MUSCLES.

The paralysis that lesions of the nervous centres will produce, and especially that which arises from hemorrhage in the nervous centres, has been already treated of. But there are cases where the muscle or muscles becomes paralyzed, without the possibility of tracing the cause to any morbid appearance on dissection, and yet when the effect has proceeded from some inappreciable cause or

change that must have occurred in the nervous centres. We often find the paralysis confined to a small portion, and frequently it happens that only one muscle is implicated. When this is the case, and there are no signs whatever of any disturbance in the brain, the loss of power may be owing to pressure on the particular nerves that are distributed to the paralyzed muscle. Dislocation of the os humeri, by causing pressure on the circumflex nerve, has caused *paralysis of the deltoid*. In many cases, however, the paralysis of a single muscle is but the precursory sign that betokens the approach of some more serious difficulty; the falling down of the upper eyelid may indicate the approach of apoplexy or of hemiplegia, and the paralysis of one or more muscles of the fingers is at times a premonitory sign of the same difficulty.

The paralysis of one of the motor muscles produces *Strabismus*, such as often occurs in advanced stages of encephalic disease. *Aphonia* appears to be produced in many cases by paralysis of the muscles whose office it is to stretch the vocal cords.

Paralysis of the tongue occurs as a symptom of general paralysis and yet it may occur alone from pressure on the hypoglossal nerve.

Sometimes a morbid condition of the nerves distributed to the face will occasion *paralysis of the face*, although the same occurs in or accompanies hemiplegia.

Paralysis of the rectum produces a deplorable condition of the patient; a continual involuntary discharge of fæces. A paralysis of the sphincter of the bladder occasions involuntary discharge of urine.

The paralysis caused by lead, and also that attendant upon mental alienation may sometimes occur only in the partial form. Workers in mercury are liable to a form of partial paralysis that effects the muscles concerned in articulation and mastication and sometimes those of locomotion; arsenic when taken as a poison has been known to produce similar results.

Causes.—The ordinary causes of partial paralysis are the same of course that produce general paralysis; certain poisons are known to have produced the difficulty. Pressure upon the nervous centres or on that part from whence a nerve may arise that is distributed to a certain muscle may occasion its paralysis—contusions and concussions are among the exciting causes of the disease.

OUR LITERATURE.

BY JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M. D.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 497, VOL. 4.)

What has been said of the work on cholera is no less true of its companion volume on Pneumonia. No praise we could bestow can enhance its value, and no language too strong to urge upon those desiring sound and scientific information, the perusal of the book for themselves. What is said of the disease itself, is brief, clear, and *ad rem*. No words, no time thrown away. The reader finds himself at once at the bedside of the patient, applying his remedies and testing their powers and results. The work is almost entirely devoted to the clinical record of cases treated under the immediate inspection of Dr. Tessier in the Hospital St. Marguerite, in Paris, over which the doctor has been placed by authority of the French government, to test the value, and ratify the previous statistical reports of Homœopathy. Here is a new thing, a strange thing, a wondrous thing, indeed! Proud, aristocratic, polite, accomplished and learned "*la belle France*," does not think it beneath her dignity or likely to leave a blot upon her literary or national annals, to test the value of a well-supported and clearly demonstrated therapeutic law. "O tempore, O mores!"

All this only proves "how far the French are behind us in Pennsylvania;" but especially in this city of FRANKLIN, whom we take much pride in hanging upon our walls surrounded by the nobility of the French Court of other days, in the simple dignity of his quaker garb, submitting his *uncovered* head to the laurel wreath, the appropriate reward of learned brows, from the hand of a QUEEN! And who does not admit that the man was as worthy of the dignity as the crowning act was of the right royal and fair representative of the most polished and chivalrous nation on the globe? If France could not produce a man able to beckon the lightnings of heaven from the clouds, she could adequately and appropriately reward the child of the American Wilderness; that favorite of science, to whom it was given literally to accomplish what the daring grand-son of Atlas feared to essay,—*to filch his thunderbolts from Jupiter*. But times have changed, and science has advanced so far among us now, that our *Allopathic* "medical aristocracy" can dispense with further discovery, can execrate those who dare attempt any improving innovation, as well as the system which would teach them what

they do not know, or have not learned. Let France, England, Germany and Russia investigate new medical laws, as for us in Philadelphia, we have a *vested interest* in maintaining things as they are—we stand by our *Lancet* and *Gallipot*, and if Asmodeus could fly with his friend, Don Cleofas, the student, to our State House tower, he could show him what he once did in Madrid, when he made Death visible in his complete uniform, and decorated with all the distinguished insignia of his exalted imperial station,—“Look towards the east, see, there he is,” said the devil, “on one of his wings are painted war, pestilence, famine, shipwreck, conflagrations, with the rest of those sad accidents which every instant deliver him up a fresh prey. On his other wing are to be seen two young physicians taking their doctor’s degree, in the presence of Death who gives them the cap, after swearing them never to practice physic otherwise than it is practised at this time of day.” Such being the oath of allegiance which so many of our friends of another school have taken; we beg to call their attention to the following extract from the introduction to the work before us, while we refer them to the work itself for a little more information about what “these Homœopaths” are doing:—a matter which seems very sorely to trouble them just now, if we may judge from the allusions in those long, laborious, high-coloured, high-sounding “introductorys,” with which they regale the anxious expectants from the *far South* and *West*, who devour with wondrous avidity these meals which lie so heavy on their stomachs as to become quite impossible to digest for lack of gastric juice of such a quality as should assimilate their crude materials to a homogeneous mass.

“A RETROSPECTIVE VIEW OF THE ALLŒOPATHIC MATERIA MEDICA, AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE HOMŒOPATHIC LAW OF CURE.”

“IN giving to the public the result of some of the clinical investigations, which I had undertaken for the purpose of establishing the efficacy or the non-efficacy of the homœopathic method of treatment, I must expect to encounter various kinds of opponents.

Some will assert that I have violated the laws of professional probity by treating as a serious science that which they consider as a system of despicable jugglery and charlatanism which should be severely interdicted by the laws.

Others will pretend that I have acted without conscience towards

patients who apply in our hospitals for help, by subjecting them to a method of treatment which our schools, our academies, our most eminent practitioners have repudiated and branded as an aberration of the human mind. They cannot comprehend that a public administration which owes to the poor all the solicitude that a father feels for his children, should have allowed a physician to subject the larger number of his patients to a method of treatment which excites the indignation of the most enlightened physicians.

Others again will say that medical freedom should be respected, but that it should be rendered worthy of respect by not subjecting to the crucible of experiment theories *that are evidently absurd*.

Some will say that a trial of Hahnemann's method in our public hospitals, favors the quackery of homœopathic physicians in private practice.

Others may feel disposed to assert that the value of the homœopathic treatment has been investigated by men equally distinguished for their science and professional honor; that they have publicly condemned this method, and that, to do over again what they have done, is to cast suspicion and doubt on their intelligence.

Others, again will say that certain classes of minds require strange kinds of nourishment, as certain vitiated stomachs digest with a relish the most repulsive articles of food.

Others, finally, will maintain that by setting aside the ruling doctrines, and by repelling the wisdom of the highest authorities of the school, we fall into the most condemnable extravagances.

I have a right to believe that these objections will be raised, because they have been raised before with a violence which I need not characterize. I shall endeavor to answer all these objections and to put a stop to all such lamentations.

It will be noticed that all these objections flow from the same origin, namely from the assertion that the doctrine of Hahnemann is absurd. Indeed, if his method of treatment is not absurd, how far is professional honor violated by applying the homœopathic treatment in a hospital? And by what reasons could, in such a case, a wise and enlightened administration be actuated in prohibiting the freedom of medical treatment, this palladium of all scientific progress? If Hahnemann's method is not absurd, the freedom of treatment is not abused by ascertaining, by means of clinical observations, the degree of usefulness and efficacy, of which

this method may be possessed. If this method is not absurd, it should be tried, and examined critically; and nobody has a right to call those who exercise it in private practice quacks. How far are they quacks rather than those who do not examine the new doctrines?

If this method is not absurd, it is quite possible that the enlightened men who have tried it in practice, and have condemned it as inefficient, have been mistaken in their investigations. Is it an insult to suppose that they may have been mistaken in spite of their acknowledged science and good faith?

If the homœopathic doctrine is not absurd, it may be studied even by those who do not belong to the order of erratic minds.

And finally, if it is not absurd, the absurdity is entirely on the side of its vehement calumniators.

All the previous objections can therefore be reduced to one single affirmation, namely: *homœopathy is an absurdity*; all the rest is sheer declamation launched by vulgar minds against a species of literature which is unpleasant to them. It behooves us therefore to inquire whether or no Hahnemann's method is really absurd.

Theoretically it is indeed impossible to treat the subject in another manner. Theory cannot convey to us any higher information. Experience, or, as we now say, practice is the only standard by which the usefulness of a system can be tried. Theory and practice have their well-defined sphere of action; the former shows whether a doctrine is generally conformable to sound sense; and by means of practical application we determine the value of a theory. This course has always been pursued in medicine; and those who condemn homœopathy as absurd without a previous examination, do so in accordance with preconceived theoretical prejudices. I shall pursue the course which has been pursued by the opponents of homœopathy, with this difference that I shall guard myself against the misleading bias of blind passion, and shall endeavor strictly to adhere to the legitimate demands of a scientific inquiry.

Hahnemann's doctrine pretends to constitute a general reform of therapeutics; it must, therefore, furnish a new solution of all therapeutic questions. The essential points of every system of therapeutics are:

1. Scientific determination of the medical properties of drugs;
2. Classification of drugs;

3. The mode of observing and classifying the indications of disease;

4. The application of drugs agreeably to these indications.

(Therapeutics being the science of the indications of disease, of the application of drugs, and of the relation of drugs to disease; it evidently follows that these four points comprise the whole doctrine of therapeutics.)

1. *Scientific determination of the properties of drugs according to the method of Hahnemann.*

Experience has shown from time immemorial that only such substances as produce rapid and marked alterations in the functions after their introduction in the human organism in health, are possessed of curative virtues in disease: hence their appellation of *remedial agents*. The complex of these drugs constitutes the *Materia Medica*. The first condition of arriving at a knowledge of the curative virtues of drugs, is the determination of the effects which they produce in the healthy organism. How is a knowledge of these effects to be obtained?

Nature only answers when interrogated, and only answers correctly those who know how to interrogate her. In this case man has not any thing to divine, he has to learn every thing. We may apply here the words of the philosopher of Geneva: *I know that truth resides in the facts, not in my mind which observes them; and I shall be nearest the truth the less I shall indulge in theories of my own.* It is observation alone that can teach us the effects of drugs in the healthy organism. But it is evident that this must be experimental observation resulting from actual trials, otherwise we should not learn much from it. Hence it is evident that trials of drugs have to be actually instituted upon healthy persons. This is one of the cardinal points in Hahnemann's doctrine, or rather its starting-point. Is this absurd? Can any thing be more lucid, more logical, more conclusive? Every sensible person will answer no: hence the starting-point is legitimate.

But it is not sufficient to institute experiments; they have to be conducted methodically, not arbitrarily. We must not content ourselves with simply observing the phenomena which make their appearance immediately after the introduction of the drug in the organism; the prover has to watch every symptom which characterizes the action of the drug, the most trifling as well as the most

striking; he has to observe all the changes which the drug develops in the organism, from the commencement to the termination of its action, and has to furnish us an exact picture of the drug-disease.

Is it not evident that in order to study the pure effects of each drug, it should not be mixed up with other drugs during the trial?

This is another rule invariably followed by Hahnemann. His *Materia Medica* comprises therefore a complete list of the effects which the drugs he has proved, are capable of producing in healthy persons. I ask again, is there any thing absurd in this Herculean labor of forty years? To me nothing seems more scientific, more methodical, more worthy of the respect of serious physicians. Who had ever undertaken and carried out such a task? It ill behoves our puny and pitiful observers to declaim against such an immense work.

2. *Classification of drugs according to Hahnemann.*

Classifications are admirable things, provided varieties are not mistaken for classes, but the classes are arranged in accordance with the analogies characterizing the varieties. In medicine, both in pathology and *materia medica*, we have always pursued a contrary route, namely: arbitrary classes were established first, and the varieties were *nolens volens* adapted to the classes.

Drugs have been at all times divided into three classes: evacuants, alteratives and specifics. The first class, evacuants, *is again subdivided with respect to the various routes by which nature expels the heterogeneous humors, which, if retained in the system, cause the various diseases; of these subdivisions we have seven:**

1. Purgatives and emics;
2. Expectorants;
3. Errhines, sneezing medicines;
4. Uterina;
5. Diuretics;
6. Diaphoretics;
7. Anti-periodicals.

The second class, alteratives, comprise the drugs *which alter in an imperceptible manner the composition of the humors*;† of these we have eleven kinds:

* Chomel, *Synoptical Description of the usual Plants*, Paris, 1761.

† *Ib.*

1. Cephalics and aromatics;
2. Ophthalmic;
3. Stomachics;
4. Hepatics, splenetics;
5. Carminatives;
6. Astringents;
7. Detergents;
8. Aperitives;
9. Emollients;
10. Anodynes;
11. Refrigerants and incrassants.

The third class, *specifics* comprises drugs which act no one knows how;* of these we have four subdivisions:

1. Vulneraria;
2. Vermifuge;
3. Febrifuge;
4. Antiscorbutics.

Each of these subdivisions contained substances from every kingdom of nature, especially since the reform of Paracelsus. This list may show that, in our time, the classification of drugs must have become much more arbitrary for a number of physicians, without, however, having changed its basis.

Murray, in his *apparatus medicaminum*, which is the only serious work on *Materia Medica* that we possess, props the traditional classification. He classes drugs agreeably to the order that was adopted in natural history; his plants, for instance, the only part of his work that he has completed, are arranged after the method of Linné.

Since Tournefort, this reform was demanded in our country by the botanic physicians. It has not prevailed, however, and the old arrangement, with the exception of some slight modifications, has been continued.†

Hahnemann has given a very severe, but just criticism of the old classification of drugs; he shows that every drug may belong to most classes and species, and that, in each class, it is possessed of vague and uncertain properties.

In his arrangement of the drugs of the various kingdoms, Hahne-

* Hippocrates.

† Trousseau, *traité de matière médicale et de thérapeutique*; Paris, 1847, 2 vol. in 8.

mann follows the alphabetical order. This is the pure and simple negation of the traditional order. He aimed above all things at showing the natural effect of each drug.

His disciples have observed the same method, except that they adopt with Murray the natural order of classification; they divide drugs into three classes: *

Drugs obtained from the mineral kingdom;

“ “ “ vegetable kingdom;

“ “ “ animal kingdom.

This method will undoubtedly be universally adopted, if we may judge by the course of instruction which is now pursued in the Paris School of pharmacy. Guibourt, one of the most distinguished teachers of the school, has adopted this arrangement in his last edition of the *Natural History of Simple Drugs*. †

The alphabetical order adopted by Hahnemann is perfectly reconcilable with the natural order, which is as simple as it is wise. So far then, as Hahnemann's classification of drugs is concerned, there is nothing absurd in his method.

3. *On Hahnemann's mode of observing and classifying the therapeutic indications.*

What distinguishes the physician from the empiric, is this, that the latter treats patients without inquiring into their state, whereas the former never acts without a motive. According to Galenus, the therapeutic indication show how and where art should interfere. Indeed, all the great physicians of all ages and countries, have acknowledged positive indications as their supreme rule in the selection of drugs. Whosoever deviates from them, plunges into blind routine, or into a dishonorable scepticism, dishonorable because it is without any excuse.

According to Hahnemann, the totality of the symptoms should determine the selection of the remedial agent.

This method of selection may seem too absolute, and is besides incomplete. It omits, for instance, to take notice of the anatomical lesions which do not strike the senses; but it is not an absurd mode.

4. *On the mode of selecting a remedy according to Hahnemann.*

† Jahr's Pharmacopœia and Pathology, (translated by Charles J. Hemple, M. D., and for sale by W. Radde, 322 Broadway, N. Y.)

‡ *Histoire naturelle des drogues simples*, ou Cours d'histoire naturelle professé à Ecole de pharmacie, 4me edition, Paris, 1849—1850, 3 vol. in 8, avec figures.

The selection of a remedial agent implies in the first place the acknowledgment and perception of a binding relation between the natural symptom and the medicine. This bond between the symptoms of the disease and the remedial agent has been expressed by Hahnemann in the general formula: *Similia similibus curantur*, or "like cures like." His own observations and those of others led him to establish this formula as the true therapeutic law.

Hahnemann discovered that more or less dangerous aggravations of the symptoms ensued, if his medicines were administered at the usual doses agreeably to the principle of similarity. In the place of the large doses which he employed at first, he was gradually led to administer infinitesimal doses of the appropriate remedial agents.

In all this I do not see any thing that might be termed absurd.

Hahnemann's method not being absurd, it cannot be on account of its absurdity that it has been condemned. What are the real motives of this condemnation? One motive may be the strangeness and improbability of the facts and the ideas which Hahnemann develops. These characteristics of his doctrine cannot be denied; they strike every one who, for the first time, studies Hahnemann's system.

But a rejection based upon such causes, is not legitimate. Indeed, according to the words of our poet: *le vrai peut quelquefois n'être pas vraisemblable*, truth may often seem very little truth-like. Moreover, every unknown thing at first appears strange, for the simple reason that it was unknown when it was first brought to light. This is the common fate of almost every great discovery when it is first announced. It seems strange because it was a stranger to our minds; this is the only reason.

True, strangeness and improbability have their degrees. Auscultation, for instance, is less strange than the circulation of the blood; this is less strange than the microscopic entozoa, and these again are less strange than the Hahnemannian attenuations. In these we pass at once from ponderable fragments to divisions which no mathematical language is capable of defining. Strangeness and improbability here seemed to have reached the highest degree.

One must lose sight of all the peculiarities of the human intellect in order to be astonished at the opposition which a method for which the members of the medical profession were not all prepared, excited in their minds. Whether we appeal to natural philosophy, to chem-

istry, to physiology, to pathology, there does not seem to be any thing in any of these sciences to enable us to account for the action of infinitesimal doses. On the contrary, every principle in these sciences seems to oppose and conflict with the reality of this action. In this respect the most eminent as well as the most humble men in the sciences occupy the same rank; both are impressed alike; the learned are even worse off than the uninformed, for the former are perfectly aware of the immense distance that separates Hahnemann from the ruling doctrines, whereas the latter does not even suspect it.

I am therefore not astonished at the opposition which the strangeness of Hahnemann's doctrines excite at first sight. But this opposition is not any the more legitimate on that account. Indeed, the Hahnemannian doses are not without precedents in nature, and, provided we apply ourselves to the task in good earnest, we discover a multitude of facts and laws confirmatory of those which Hahnemann has established.

In physics it is an axiom that bodies can be divided without limit. Another axiom is that the molecule has all the properties of the original body.

In chemistry is it not a well known fact that combinations take place the more readily the more bodies are divided?

In physiology all the phenomena of formation refer to infinitesimal quantities. The growth of the tissue is a striking instance of this. How much does the retina or iris of a child grow in the course of a day? Twenty-five or thirty years are required for the full development of a finger. Well! let us analyse the elements of a finger, the skill, the cellular and fibrous tissue, the blood-vessels and nerves, and let us undertake to determine the quantity of increase of these various constituents in the course of every twenty-four hours.

Chemistry does not inform us in what respect the most virulent agent differs from the most simple. Does it explain to us the nature of marsh-miasms? Does it account to us for the infinite diversity of odors which certainly constitute infinitesimal emanations? And yet these phenomena do not astonish anybody.

This shows that the facts which Hahnemann has pointed out, do not justify the opposition which has been waged against them. A first moment of surprise or hesitation may be excusable in a thoughtful mind; but an absolute rejection *à priori* is a proof of mental weakness and of ignorance of natural phenomena.

Another cause why the doctrines of Hahnemann have been rejected, is that their adherents are not always posted up in the science of pathology. In one sense this argument is in bad taste; I shall therefore view it in a more serious light.

It is fortunate for medicine that we have physicians of a lower rank, pathologists who do not groan under the weight of a title, who are not compromised by truth, and who can offer to genius the hospitality of their intelligence, good will, zeal and admiration, without running the risk of losing their reputation, fortune and influence. There is a gulf between the man of talent and the man of genius; but between the obscure man and the slighted genius there is a bond, it is obscurity: he is always ready to do homage to genius who does not lay claim to any himself.

In such elevated and important arts as medicine, it is well that the spirit of innovation should be opposed, enthusiasm bridled, and error walled in. The men who occupy the highest rank, are admirably adapted to opposing to the new ideas the knowledge which they had acquired: this is their mission. Opposition and contradiction are the necessary touch-stone of every truth: no truth is solidly established until it has triumphed over serious resistance. The opposition of our eminent pathologists, and the adhesion of obscure physicians are not, therefore, a sufficient reason for a purely theoretical rejection of Hahnemann's method: on the contrary, if it is to triumph, it can only do so by conquering these two orders of antagonism.

A third cause of rejection consists in the errors which Hahnemann has committed in several important particulars; but this cause is no more legitimate than any of the former; this can be shown quite easily. The vehement opponents of Hahnemann do not know them, for they have never pointed them out. They have contented themselves with assailing Hahnemann with shallow witticisms and vulgar anecdotes. Hahnemann's errors have been lucidly shown and energetically combated by his disciples. To be convinced of this, read the work of Rau's: *New Organon*.* These errors do not, therefore, constitute legitimate causes of rejection, since they are combated by Hahnemann's own disciples, and unknown to his opponents. His disciples adhere to the doctrine while com-

* *New Organon of the specific healing art*, by Dr. J. L. Rau, translated by Charles J. Hempel, M.D., Radde, 322 Broadway, New York.

bating its errors ; hence these errors, not being essential to the doctrine, are no legitimate cause of a rejection *à priori*. But, for the matter of that, let any one name a book on medicine that is not filled with errors ; what matters it, if Hahnemann has committed errors, so long as he is right in his general principles.

If Hahnemann's doctrine is not absurd,—if the strangeness and the improbable character of his ideas,—the inferior position of his disciples,—the errors which we discover in Hahnemann's writings, do not constitute any legitimate causes of rejection : how shall we account for the vehement rage with which his doctrine has been and is being assailed by our most eminent men ? I confess, I am unable to explain this fierce persecution, because I do not understand it if I am to account for it simply with reference to the doctrine itself. I should think, though, that it is rejected *à priori* simply because it is a doctrine, a theory, a systematic arrangement of ideas. The crime of this theory is to be a theory.

In the present age doctrines, theories, systems, are condemned *à priori* because they are looked upon as the cause of all our errors in medicine. The school which prevails now-a-days in our public colleges, academies, hospitals, rejects in the most absolute manner all theories and systems. This school does not admit that medicine is a science, and it pretends to construct this science upon new observations and facts. To admit the possibility of a great truth in Hahnemann's theory, would be to give the lie to, and reject that which had been believed, affirmed and professed during a life-time. It is much easier to condemn and ridicule Hahnemann's doctrine. I do not mean to refute such errors for the present. They are sufficiently serious to deserve a special chapter, which we shall head : *on the abuse of the numerical method in medicine*. At the same time I shall state my reasons for having adopted this heading.*

So far I have confined myself to refuting objections by answering the question : Is Hahnemann's method absurd, or is it not ? It seems to me that I have shown sufficiently that this method is in no respect tainted with absurdity, and that its claims to clinical experimentation cannot be denied by any one who does not mean to violate every rule of sound sense and logic. This mode of reasoning is sufficient to justify the clinical investigations that we have instituted, and their publications so far as it seems to us necessary in order to

* See farther on.

convince prejudiced minds. It now remains for me to explain the motives which have induced me to make a beginning of such investigations in a public hospital, in spite of all the prejudices which I had to encounter, all the interests which I had to hurt, in spite of all the little storms which such a proceeding must raise against me, and which have indeed been raised. But before explaining these motives let me say a few words of Hahnemann's errors.

Hahnemann's doctrine may be divided into two parts, his pathology and his therapeutics. Considering each by itself, it may be said that the one contains his errors, the other his truths; his pathology is wrong, his therapeutics is correct. Homœopathy is therefore a compound of fallacies and of truths.

In pathology Hahnemann was a hippocratist. Few are acquainted with hippocratism and its dangers: the great name of the father of medicine protects the vast and the most pernicious error in medicine. It is very appropriately expressed in this familiar saying: "There are only patients, there are no diseases." This is indeed the result to which the doctrine of Hippocrates leads us in pathology, and such a result is simply destructive of all pathology, and indeed rejects and denies it. If there are no diseases, what becomes of diagnosis, of nosography, of nosology? Are they not mere chimeras?

This is not all. Hippocratism supposing all the time that disease is the reaction of the vital forces against an enemy located in the inmost depths of the organism, the mind is compelled to seek for this enemy, and is forced into the region of a fabulous etiology. A morbid agent is required to excite a reaction, for reaction does not take place without being called out by an opposing force. Hence all these imaginary causes of disease, such as alterations of the blood or bile, mucus, black bile, acridities, saccharine or saline substances, serosities, invisible animalcules, miasms, unknown poisons; in one word, all the etiological mythology that escaped from Pandora's box. These hypotheses are the necessary results of the theory, that disease is a process of reaction, and nothing but reaction, or that disease is something identical, an essential unit in principle.

Hahnemann was not aware of the falsity of the physiological hypothesis upon which Hippocrates based the whole edifice of medicine: he adopted the traditional errors of pathology, or rather he suffered himself to be deceived by them in the same way as so many others do. Hippocratism became the source of all his errors.

Hence, Hahnemann's pathology cannot be criticised or rejected, without at the same time criticising or rejecting that of Hippocrates.

The rejection of all essential diseases, the psora-hypothesis, or the doctrine that the itch is the common cause of almost every chronic malady, are ideas in agreement with the hippocratic doctrine. For psora substitute black bile, or for black bile substitute psora, and the difference will be very trifling. Such are, in my judgment, the chief errors into which Hahnemann has fallen. From these general errors result the isolated errors which we meet now and then in his writings.

Let me now state the motives that prompted me to study a doctrine which is contrary to all my past notions of pathology. What is the reason that I was not deterred from such studies by this antagonism?

We want a reform in therapeutics and in materia-medica; every practitioner has been proclaiming this truth for fifty years past. There is not a student of medicine nor a practitioner of ever so little experience that has not repeated these words of Bichat: "An incoherent agglomeration of incoherent opinions, our materia medica is, of all physiological sciences, the one where the aberrations of the human mind are most strikingly depicted. What do I say? It is not a science to a methodical mind; it is a shapeless assemblage of inaccurate ideas, of observations that are frequently puerile, of illusory means of cure of formulas that are as strangely conceived as they are pompously put together. It is said that the practice of medicine is repulsive; I go further and maintain that, in some respects, it is not the practice of a reasonable man whenever its principles are taken from most of our materia medicas."

Pinel has been praised for having denounced the practice of mixing up drugs; but these denunciations have proved so little a reform, that at the present moment, the compounding of drugs prevails more than ever. Broussais was more thorough; he proscribed at one blow the whole of the materia medica. His pupils were a little more ignorant on this account; that is all. Such means do not constitute any reform.

If therapeutics be the art of interpreting and prescribing in accordance with the morbid indications; and if the materia medica be nothing else than the totality of the agents by means of which the therapeutic process is carried on,—it is not difficult to perceive

in what manner therapeutics and the *materia medica* are deficient ; on the one hand, the morbid indications are arbitrary, and on the other hand, the action of drugs is imperfectly determined. Hence, a reform in medicine should aim 1, at substituting positive for all hypothetical indications ; and 2, at employing remedial agents whose action has been correctly ascertained by provings upon the healthy, and whose efficacy has been established by clinical experience.

Hahnemann's labors seem to me to have realized the therapeutic reform that has been desired by all physicians. What is particularly remarkable in his labors, are his immense experimentations concerning the effects of drugs ; it is his *materia medica*, this masterpiece of observation, patience and unsophisticated sense. On first beholding this prodigious work, the mind becomes confused.* We are less struck by the fact that all these phenomena were observed and classed by a single man, than by the possibility of retaining them in their order in one's memory.

Without this gigantic work, the formula *similia similibus curantur* would have remained a trivial affirmation, such as it had been from Hippocrates to our period. But vivified by a knowledge of the pure effects of drugs, it leads to a therapeutic reform of the highest order. I will explain how.

It behooves us first to state very clearly what Hahnemann understands by *similia similibus curantur* or by *homœopathy*. We find in Hahnemann's writings several contradictory theories which impart to the homœopathic formula various meanings different from the natural sense of the words. What can the literal formula mean, if not that medicines cure morbid phenomena similar to those which the same medicines are capable of producing in a healthy person ? Nothing can be clearer and simpler than this idea. It is a general therapeutic formula which established with great precision the relation of the morbid symptoms to the remedial agents. The law of similiarity, thus expressed, may be either true or false, but it is lucid and precise, and presents a positive ground for discussion and for clinical and experimental verification. And lastly, so far as pathology is concerned, his formula neither denies nor affirms any-

* We allude to Hahnemann's *Materia Medica Pura* and to his *Chronic Diseases*, 9 vols., containing the effects of upwards of a hundred drugs proved upon healthy persons. For sale at W. Radde, 322, Broadway, N. Y.

thing; it agrees with Hippocratism just as well as with the doctrine of the essential character of diseases.

The natural or literal sense of the formula is the one that has been adopted by Hahnemann, and upon which all his labors were based. Unfortunately the illustrious reformer did not content himself with accepting the literal meaning; he undertook to give us the reason of the law which had at first appeared to him simply as a generalization of facts, and, which, in order to preserve its scientific character, should never have been presented in any other light. Hahnemann plunged into physiological hypotheses concerning the inmost nature of diseases, and arrived at the Hippocratic conclusion that disease is a reaction of the vital force. He explained the formula *similia similibus* by substituting the artificial reaction excited by the drug in the place of the natural reaction of the vital force against the morbid agent. The symptoms of the disease indicating in their totality the vital reaction, he opposed to these symptoms, which he called disease, a similar group of symptoms produced by the drug which he termed drug-disease. Henceforth the term disease acquired an arbitrary meaning, for a group of symptoms does not constitute a disease. This led Hahnemann to a denial of the essential nature of disease; each patient became a special malady requiring a particular application of the therapeutic law. Owing to this arbitrary interpretation of the term disease, Hahnemann was enabled to proclaim without inconsistency that he had discovered the real medicine of specifics; but they were specifics with reference to patients, and not with reference to disease, since he denies their existence. Hence resulted a deplorable confusion, and legitimate occasions for attacking the homœopathic law. Indeed, if we speak of specific treatment, every body understands by it the specific treatment of some disease in all its possible forms, not the specific treatment of each patient in particular.

Hence, by changing the general formula expressing the relation of morbid symptoms to the action of remedial agents, which, as we said before, is the true meaning of the formula *similia similibus curantur*, to a general formula of specifics, Hahnemann transformed a real scientific law into an arbitrary affirmation.

But this is not all. After rejecting the doctrine of essential diseases, which he considered as something purely nominal, he admitted a certain number of acute and chronic diseases, because

they were due to some miasms, thus restoring, by means of a hypothesis about acute and chronic miasms, the natural sense of the term disease in the formula *similia similibus*. Specifics no longer referred to patients but to diseases; thus, Mercury is the specific or simile of syphilis; Sulphur is the specific or simile of the itch; Thuja is the specific or simile of sycosis; Belladonna is the specific or simile of scarlatina; Arnica is the specific or simile of traumatic affections, and so on for a certain number of other diseases. Starting from these definitions, the true meaning of the formula *similia similibus* is this: diseases are cured by drugs which produce similar diseases in healthy persons. This formula almost implies an impossibility, for no drug is capable of reproducing the phenomena of a disease in all their totality and in the same order of succession and combination, as they developed themselves in the original malady.

Notwithstanding these apparent inconsistencies, it is undeniable that Hahnemann has offered a general formula expressive of the relation of the pathological phenomena to the action of the drugs. This is, in my judgment, above all criticism. Moreover, the errors which we have pointed out, are chargeable to the Hippocratic philosophy, whereas the truth which Hahnemann has established, belongs to him, supposing, of course, that the homœopathic law embodies a highly important general truth, as I believe it does. What matters it whether the treatment proposed by Hahnemann, is termed specific, provided it is efficacious?

As regards infinitesimal doses, what argues in their favor is the fact, that Hahnemann was led to them gradually by experience. Prescribing his remedies in conformity with the law of similarity, which requires that the natural disease should be combated by means of an artificial drug-disease that is as nearly as possible analogous to the former, he observed that the medicine as soon even as it was administered, produced a considerable aggravation of the condition of the patient; it became therefore necessary, in order to arrive at a cure to pass through an increase of the original symptoms which was generally proportionate to the efficacy of the remedy. Every enlightened practitioner will comprehend this. What prevents him from giving Opium in headache, or Cantharides in affections of the urinary organs, for the purpose of modifying the vitality of the affected parts, if not the fear of aggravating the evil to an extent which it is not possible to determine beforehand? This was

the reason why Hahnemann diminished the dose. What seems incredible *à priori*, the more he diminished the quantity of the drug, the less violent was the aggravation, and the more certain was the cure when the remedy was well chosen. What is to be said against experience, except that it ought to be confirmed by facts so numerous and so precise, that the mind feels compelled to yield to evidence? This question of doses has therefore to be determined by observation. It may be asked, however, how happens it that these medicinal aggravations are never noticed by practitioners who prescribe their medicines agreeably to the posology of Galen or Sylvius? To account for this, we have to observe two things, one general, the other special: the first is, that things which we have omitted to notice, finally cease to excite our attention; the second is, that in the Old School method of practising, only, the primitive action of the drug is resorted to. In this practice the desired effect has to be produced without any delay; the cathartic has to be at once followed by alvine evacuations, the emetics by vomiting, opium by sleep, and so forth. To effect these results, it is necessary to administer a considerable dose of the drug. This is quite different in regard to the secondary symptoms produced by the drug; these secondary symptoms will be so much more marked the less the organism had been distributed by the primitive symptoms, unless the dose had been so strong as to saturate the organism with the drug, as to cause the secondary symptoms to follow the primary. I know from experience that certain drugs if administered according to Rasori's method, induced results similar to those of infinitesimal doses, whereas the ordinary doses of the common posology remained inert. But it is useless to insist upon these points; no arguments can replace personal experience in the matter of infinitesimal doses. Upwards of five hundred trials which I have instituted with them, have convinced me of their efficacy.

It is not difficult to comprehend, that in order to apply the law of similarity, Hahnemann had to abolish the compounding of drugs. Such compound prescriptions are in the way of all certain and positive medication. To obtain this certainty, the compound ought first to be tried on the healthy organism. But no such provings have ever been instituted, and they seem indeed unnecessary, since simple drugs are amply sufficient.

Finally, an essential point in practice, is the duration of the

action of drugs. This question, which is entirely new, has been opened by Hahnemann, and concluded by his numerous and indefatigable disciples.

To resume, criticise as much as one may, homœopathy is a scientific reform of therapeutics. Thanks to the labors of this great man, what has been termed rational therapeutics, has now become a system conformable to sound sense, and what Bichat declared to be unworthy of a man of reason, now constitutes a positive and regular science.

If we consider the formula *similia similibus curantur* as the general formula expressive of the relation of the symptoms to the positive effects of the drug, the homœopathic doctrine becomes a development instead of a negation of the science of medicine. Seneca was right in saying: *eril veri quod ab antiquo remotissimum*; nothing is true which is absolutely contrary to tradition. This is particularly applicable to medicine. If Hahnemann's ideas were not in harmony with the truths which have been established by succeeding generations of observers throughout a series of twenty-four centuries, these ideas would not, in my estimation, have any serious foundation; they would be of the fantastic order of the system of Asclepiades of Bithynia, capable of momentarily reducing enthusiastic imaginations, but unworthy of taking rank among the regular and positive truths which constitute the traditional basis of medicine.

Such are the reasons which have rendered it incumbent upon me to verify the truth of Hahnemann's discovery. I have done so with all the care that I am capable of. Nothing has so far prevented me, and nothing, I trust, will prevent me hereafter from fulfilling what I consider a duty. I shall not be deterred from my course by the premature condemnations which some individuals have uttered against the generous hospitality which I have accorded to Hahnemann's doctrine. I should blush to have treated it with less respect. If a theory seems radically false, we may pass on without paying any further attention to it; but when it seems pregnant with useful truths, we are bound to treat it with becoming attention; this is all I have to say in reply to my opponents.

Reconciled with the doctrine that there are essential diseases, and that there is truth in the traditions of the Old School, Hahnemann's doctrine will become more and more lucid and productive of prac-

tical good. The minds of physicians will gradually become familiar with the new system of pharmacodynamics, and we will wonder in a few years, that even the most honorable men should have tried to smother an important truth.

What may appear a sophism now, will then be considered in its true light; those who, like myself, have had faith in observation, and have not sacrificed the only just and true criterion of physicians to the danger of a few personal insults and malevolent interpretations, will then have justice according to them. So far as the administration of the hospitals of Paris is concerned, it will redound to their honor not to have interfered in any degree with the freedom of practice in this grave business. It affords me pleasure to forestall the judgment of the future, and to express to the friends of medical freedom all the esteem with which their liberality has inspired me.

As regards those who have censured the introduction of homœopathy into our hospitals, I am convinced that some among them have done so from motives of kindness for our patients and of respect for our profession; these will be the first to acknowledge that humanity having been the gainer, the honor of the profession cannot have been tarnished by my innovation.

EXCERPTA.

BY DR. TOOTHAKER.

YELLOW FEVER IN NORFOLK.

Dr. A. A. Ziegenfuss, of this city, having returned from Norfolk, where he has been himself subjected to that malignant scourge, the Yellow Fever, and having fortunately recovered, has published in the Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Journal, an article descriptive of the epidemic, from which we make the following extracts:

“Yellow Fever, like nearly all fevers, is preceded by lassitude, weariness and listlessness, which generally continue for twenty-four hours, after which pain begins to manifest itself, the face begins to be flushed, the eyes more or less red and suffused with blood, a visible diminution of urine, which is turbid and very high colored, the perspiration interfered with, and sometimes entirely absent, the skin dry and harsh, the tongue light furred, sickness of stomach, induced by the large quantities of bile secreted; this, however, is not an invariable symptom.

“This state of the system continues from forty-eight to seventy-two hours, and the patient goes on in the usual transaction of his ordinary avocations, but now a different state of affairs begins to manifest itself, and he will probably wake up through the night with a chill; and fever hereafter becomes well marked. On examination the eyes will be found with the yellow tinge, as you will find upon close examination the face and breast having the same hue. Accompanying this you frequently have retching and vomiting, sometimes with delirium, and always dilatation of pupils; and these symptoms continue from two to three days, and constitute the first stage of the disease. Now a very evident remission takes place—the patient will consider himself nearly well. Alas, how fatal his error, as he soon discovers an early recurrence of all the symptoms in a much aggravated form develop themselves, attended with extreme debility, which soon brings on those untoward symptoms so much dreaded in this disease! Now signs of putrefaction begin to arise, petechiæ manifest themselves, breath very offensive, discharges become involuntary and very foetid; the tongue is now dry, hard and dark-colored; in many cases the body becomes yellow, a black matter is vomited forth, preceded by bleeding at the mouth, nose, and ears; the pulse sinks and flutters, and convulsions close the scene.

“The above symptoms I have grouped as nearly as I could, in the order they occurred, from my case-book and my own condition when attacked.”

In regard to treatment, he gives the following statements:

“The treatment I put myself under was with the advice of Drs. Fenner and Beard, very intelligent gentlemen from New Orleans, who had charge of the Howard Hospital. My case was well marked, with considerable congestion, violent pain, much retching and vomiting, with intense heat and slight delirium at times—altogether a bad case.

“As soon as my quarters were in order (at Hospital) I had a warm mustard bath prepared for my extremities, an infusion of Arvantii Fol. to produce diaphoresis, and body warmly covered with blankets. Took while in bath, Oil Ricini ʒ i ss , followed immediately with Quinia Sulp. 20 grs., Tinc. Opii ʒ ss , Arom. Sulp. Acid qs. to dissolve. After the oil had gently operated, the Quinia had its effect; the fever was broken, gentle diaphoresis was the result, which was

increased by the free use of warm covering and Liq. Ammonia Acetat., and this was all the treatment required; the only thing necessary being caution in diet and to guard against exposure and fatigue.

"No. 2.—Was a friend of mine from the same location; we were also much alike in habit and healthy condition of system; he was not attacked with as much virulence as I was; treated outside the Hospital; had the care and attendance of his family and friends, with the comforts of home, but notwithstanding fell a victim to the disease.

"His treatment was directly in opposition to that which I was under. Twenty grains of blue mass was immediately given him, to be followed in a few hours with Oil Ricini 3 iss; the stomach was too weak for the Mass Hydrarg., it consequently increased the severity of all the symptoms, producing the most distressing vomiting and retching, which blisters or mustard could not control. This treatment was followed with from 3 to 4 grs. of Quinine hourly; this had no effect at all, although in $3\frac{1}{2}$ days he took upwards of 180 grains of Quinine, and when it did have its desired effect, it was too late; stimulants nor anything else could save him, and fortunately convulsions closed the scene and relieved him from his misery.

"In every case which I treated with 5 gr. doses of Quinine I am satisfied more harm was done than good, and had not nature stepped in and saved a few, they undoubtedly would all have fallen victims of the Doctor; and I soon learned that such treatment would not do, especially if the use of mercurials was combined with it. Mercurials should be prescribed with extreme caution, as almost invariably the stomach of the patient is too weak to bear them, especially if followed with 5 gr. doses of Quinia, the fever then goes on, reducing the patient, so that by the time the Quinine has its effect entire disorganization of the blood will have taken place and convulsions will fortunately close the dreadful scene.

"Local bleeding with leeches or cups is of decided advantage when there is much inflammation, but general venesection I consider madness to attempt, inasmuch as the greatest fear we have in yellow fever is debility, which induces those fatal symptoms of black vomit, &c.

"As a general thing the treatment should not be violent, but gentle, cold applications to head, blisters or mustard to epigastium and extremities, which will often relieve the patients."

E. D. Fenner in the N. O. Hospital Gazette, has the following remarks on the two plans of treatment pursued at Norfolk, which probably embraces about all that the allopaths have yet been able to learn in regard to the treatment of this truly formidable disease.

"I may mention one marked discrepancy between the physicians of New Orleans and Charleston. The former recommended the treatment to be commenced with a hot mustard foot bath, and a dose of castor oil, or some other mild purgative, merely to evacuate the intestines, and the patient to be covered with a blanket, so as to keep up a continued, though not excessive perspiration, from the beginning of the attack to the end of the critical period, cold application to the head, and local depletion, if indicated by the severity of the pain. Whereas, the latter pursued a *cooling plan* of treatment from the beginning. The bowels to be gently evacuated, but febrile excitement was to be kept down by the free application of cold water over the head and body, and the use of *very light covering*; the object being not to keep up a *sweat*, but only a *gentle perspiration*, or merely a *soft skin*. For severe headache, they recommended the free and frequent use of the *cold douche*. They also advised the use of cold drinks throughout. Such is the general plan pursued by the physicians of Charleston, as far as I learned from my friends, Revenel and Huger, two highly intelligent and accomplished physicians, and I must say, it was approved by Dr. Wilson, of Havana, a physician of extensive experience in this disease. We all, however, concurred more fully in recommending mild remedies in the second and third stages of the disease."—E. D. FENNER, *N. O. Hos. Gazette*.

We have thought proper, also, whilst this subject is inviting the attention of the public, to re-publish the following article which appeared some time since in the Sunday Dispatch, under the signature, G. W. H. His views certainly have one claim to notice. They are novel, and we believe original.

In "Types of Mankind," (p. 68,) Dr. Nott, of Mobile, makes the following statement:—"A small trace of negro blood, as in the quadroon, will protect such individual against the deadly influence of climates, which the pure white man cannot endure. For example, if the population of New England, Germany, France, England, or other northern climates, come to Mobile or New Orleans, a large proportion dies of yellow fever; and of one hundred such individuals landed in the latter city at the commencement of an epidemic of yellow fever, probably half would fall victims to it. On the contrary, negroes, under all circumstances,

enjoy an almost perfect exemption from this disease, even though brought in from our nothern States; and what is still more remarkable, the mulattoes (under which term we include all grades) are almost equally exempt. The writer has witnessed many hundred deaths from yellow fever, but never more than three or four cases of mulattoes, although hundreds are exposed to this epidemic in Mobile."

The remarkable fact here stated is verified by the observations of other equally reliable writers; and it may be safely assumed as an established basis for further inquiry. I will, therefore, proceed at once, by inquiring, 1st, What physical peculiarity serves to secure this singular exemption to persons of negro blood? and 2nd, By what means it may be transferred to the white; or in other words, how the *special* exemption may be made *general*?

In considering the natural diversities of the white and black races, those of the skin appear as the most striking. The functionary operations of life, by which these are produced, involve many and intricate questions of physiology and animal chemistry; but, in general terms, it may be stated, that the coloring matter of the human skin consists of the same material in all men, and only differs in quality and quantity, as exhibited by the varied hue of the individual. Without making more than a reference to other peculiarities of race, I shall endeavor to trace out those of the skin, the functions of life employed in their production, and how these may be effected by the supposed influences which cause yellow fever.

Under what is called the scarf-skin, (the seat of color,) is deposited a thin layer of cellular matter, which is endowed with the function of assimilation, with the preparation of germs of a new generation, and with that of effecting chemical transformations, &c. The vital economy, whereby these cells are supplied with materials, must therefore be very important, and the ends to be served thereby deeply affect the animal state. Among these cells; the fat-cells are the most peculiar, but the origin of their contents has not yet been satisfactorily determined. A chapter devoted to the subject by Carpenter, will, however, sustain the general view here presented. Herder, a German writer of much distinction, in his "Ideen," says, while speaking of the varieties of man, that the negro is endowed with thick lips, (which he regards as the organs of sensuality,) for the purpose of causing him to relish that kind of food from which

the stomach may secrete the largest quantity of fatty or oleaginous matter, and the fact of such a large special secretion is manifest from his skin being very dark or black, for the coloring matter is a deposit of sub-carbonated fat. It is also evident from the strong smell emitted by the negro, which is similar to that of rancid oil, or fat.

This peculiarity of the human system being thus strikingly developed within the tropics only, must be designed by nature to meet some equally striking local or climatic phenomenon. What this may be, I will not pretend to specify, but it is a very pertinent fact that yellow fever occurs *endemically* only within the tropics.

It is now proper here to remark that the greatest diversity of opinion prevails in regard to the theory of fever in general. That, however, the morbid action of the whole of the functions is produced by impressions first made upon the nervous system and the system of nutrition, is the best supported view; and, if this be correct, the idea is strengthened, (as will be seen,) which would assign to the fatty or coloring matter of the body, as one of its special provinces, the warding off of those impressions; for within the tropics, where the human system is peculiarly organized and endowed with a capacity for the copious generation of this kind of matter, the yellow fever never prevails *epidemically*. It is, therefore, a reasonable deduction that the circumstances which induce the disease make an attack upon the system, to repel which it does not possess a sufficiency of material here indicated; else, there being no other important difference between the whites and blacks, why the prevalence of the disease merely *endemically* among the latter in their native regions, and their almost total exemption in other latitudes, as well as that of the acclimated white persons in such localities as New Orleans and Mobile; while among the *unacclimated* whites it rages as an epidemic? This may be accounted for by the fact that the periodic and frequent repetition of certain climatic influences will create in the system, when in healthy action, a tendency to provide peculiar guards for its preservation. Assuming, then, that the tendency of the stomach to effect fatty secretions is less in the white than in the black, why not safely infer that from this difference arises the exemption of the one and the liability of the other to become the subject of the epidemic?

The skin is the natural fortification of the body against hostile influences from without. "It acts," as Chaussier remarks, "like a

dry varnish, which prevents the immediate contact of bodies with the *nervous papillæ*." And, in speaking of the fat-cells, Carpenter says that "it is next to certain that the *nutrition* of the *nervous tissue* is affected in great degree at their expense." It is also pertinent, in this connection, to observe that in fever there is generally a diminution of the *fibrinous element* of the blood. Taking these facts together, we may perceive how the circumstances which produce the disease both *assail* and *consume* the forces that nature has placed upon the outer walls.

From these considerations it would seem possible, through the aid of science, to provide some means by which the partial negro-exemption from yellow fever might be made general. Liebig states that, by proper attention to what is taken into the stomach, the diffusion of the elements of nutrition throughout the body may be easily regulated. If unacclimated persons, in localities liable to yellow fever, would carefully nurture their appetites for such food as freely yields oleaginous and fatty matter (*e. g.* starchy and saccharine substances, suet, soups, and the like,) it would probably serve to put their bodies in a suitable condition to ward off the disease.

In syllogistic form, the argument I have sought to establish by the foregoing desultory thoughts is thus briefly stated :

The negro is *exempt* from *epidemic* yellow fever, because of the abundant supply of fatty matter in the cellular membrane of his skin.

The white man is *liable* to it, because of his deficiency in the supply of this material.

Therefore, to secure the like exemption for the white as that enjoyed by the black, it is necessary to supply this deficiency ; and this may be done by the employment of both natural and artificial means.

OLD SCHOOL THERAPEUTICS.

BY C. E. TOOTHAKER, M. D.

MR. EDITOR :

I am no admirer of the Philosophy of Medicine as taught by the Allopathic School.

When, however there appears, as there occasionally does, an article in their Journals confirmatory of Homœopathic principles and practice, it appears to me very proper for us to notice the con-

firmation, and to give such extracts from time to time from their works, as may illustrate the curative influence of remedies, even when those remedies have been administered in unnecessarily exhorbitant doses.

Dr. Lobach, of Wertzburg, Germany, relies upon Nux Vomica as curative in cases of obstinate vomiting during pregnancy. He administers the tincture, in four drop doses, every two hours.—A new Allopathic discovery !! Homœopathy has always used the dilutions of the same remedy for the same purpose, (*Forty Years.*)

The following article was translated from the Revue Medico-Chirurgicale, by Dr. James Bryan, for the Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Journal, of which he is the Editor.

The Aqueous Extract of Belladonna a substitute for Ergot in Obstetrical Practice.

“M. SOMA administers the extract of Belladonna internally in the proportion of 40 centigrammes to 150 grammes of liquid in teaspoonful doses, every ten minutes. He excites, in this way, very weak contractions of the uterus, with prompt dilatation of the cervix. Thus, it is by exciting, like ergot does, uterine contractions, rather than paralyzing the fibres of the neck, that he obtains dilatation. Three cases are reported by M. Soma, treated successfully in this way, without injury to patient or foetus. One foetus was weak and imperfectly developed, and lived but a few days. The tolerance of the mother is, however, surprising. Experience alone will decide the relative value of this article, in dilating the neck of the uterus. The question is the more important since the memorable discussion which took place in the Academy of Medicine at Paris, on Ergot, in which it was stated that many judicious practitioners had nearly renounced the use of this agent as an ecboic. Belladonna may perhaps be an useful substitute.”—*Gaz. Med. de Paris.*

Now Homœopathy had taught, more than thirty years ago, the action of Belladonna upon the uterus. It had, also, taught this specific action, the dilation of the cervix, especially in those difficult cases of rigidity, which more particularly call for medical interference. Whether this dilatation arise from contraction of the uterine fibres, or from some other cause, M. Soma does not appear to me to render at all evident by the article in question. How does he know that “*weak contractions,*” how does he know that any “*contractions of the uterus, are excited*” by Belladonna. How has he learned that the action of Belladonna bears any affinity to the action of Ergot? The truth is, he has no evidence at all on either of those points. He has used Belladonna successfully in certain cases of labor. His conclusions in regard to its action are mere

speculative assumptions. They are not science, nor are they presented in a form that should render them worthy of scientific consideration. Can Belladonna act in no other way than either by exciting uterine contractions, or by paralysis, to excite dilatation, and favor delivery? Does there exist any evidence from all that is known in old School practice of the toxicological or dynamic effects of Belladonna, that it possesses any power of exciting contractility of muscular fibre. Is not all the evidence we have on this subject rather confirmatory of the idea, that the action of Belladonna is generally and primarily on the nervous system, and that through the nerves it incites dilatation, intoxication, dulness of sensibility, prostration, and debility? Does not then its dynamic property consist in expansibility, rather than in contractility? And does it not so act on the nervous susceptibility, as to produce enlargement, extension, congestions, swellings, fulness, and even capillary engorgements? And are not all these the opposite of that contractility by which the muscular fibres on the body of the uterus must act, to produce mechanically dilatation of the os uteri, as M. Soma supposes.

I have also administered Belladonna successfully in several cases of difficult labor, in one the os uteri was very tense and rigid, labor progressed very slowly, until the os became dilated to the size of one and a half or two inches in diameter. The pains were now very strong and forcible, but the rigid os would not yield a particle. Its edges were drawn perfectly tight as a whip cord. The pains were frequent and powerful. The patient became frantic. Her eyes dilated and protruding, her face flushed and swollen, she sprang from the bed, and raised herself in an attitude of defiance. Her whole appearance was that of turgidity, enlargement, and a wild sense of superiority, or mental exaltation. All these symptoms seemed to me to call for Belladonna, which I prescribed in the 3d centesimal dilution, and with immediate relief. In five minutes my patient became calm, in fifteen minutes rational, and in about half an hour she was safely delivered of a healthy child: the rigidity of the os uteri having yielded rapidly, after the administration of the first dose of Belladonna, although the force of the pains was in no way sensibly increased.

With all due deference to M. Soma, I perceive in this case something entirely different from that mechanical agency produced by contractions of the fibres of the uterine parietes. I perceive, or I

think I perceive, a direct action upon the nervous system, by which its undue exaltation was overcome, and a specific action upon the os uteri, producing the usual mechanical results of Belladonna, a remedy which may perhaps produce enlargements, dilatations, protrusions, or pressure outwards, in all the openings into the cavities of the body, as it no doubt does in the eyes, the pupils, &c.

But M. Soma may argue that because spasms, contortions, and convulsive movements, and especially tetanus in certain forms, have sometimes followed from poisonous doses of Belladonna, therefore it evidently must have a contractile effect upon muscular fibre. But M. Soma neglects to observe, that these symptoms do not occur, until after the poisonous dose has for a considerable time excited its specific action upon the system. These spasms should therefore be regarded, as the recuperative efforts of nature, to restore the sinking system to a state of health, and not as among the dynamic properties of the medicine itself, which is more directly curative in those cases of spasm, characterized by short and frequent twitchings and jerkings, and in spasms of brief duration, than in tonic spasms, and cases of permanent rigidity.

Notwithstanding the remarks of M. Soma, then, I am inclined to the following reflections. First, there is no evidence that Belladonna is capable of exciting contractility in muscular fibre, or of increasing the force (*or strength*) of the pains of labor. Second, in case of spasms arising after the administration of Belladonna, all the evidence there is on the subject, goes to show that these spasms are not the dynamic effect of the medicine itself, but that they are the results or manifestations of an effort, which the recuperative energy of nature, the principle of life acting within the organism, is making to overcome the too great expansion, depression, and debility, which its administration in excessive doses has already produced.

“MEDICAL FAITH,” OR MEDICAL HUMBUG.

Review of an article in Chambers' Edinburgh Journal, Page 385.

BY C. E. TOOTHAKER, M. D.

The August number of Chambers' (*Edinburgh*) Journal, No. 77, leads off with an article on quackery, which it might be well for

some of the self styled "*orthodox*" quacks carefully to study. The article appears to have but one object, viz: to defend allopathy from the assaults which are being made upon it by homœopathy, and indeed if allopathy has no stronger armor, or no more skilful defenders, she had better surrender at once, or she will soon be obliged to call in homœopathy to her aid, to save her from her friends who so traitorously stab her in the dark.

The plan of tactics pursued by the author of the article in question appears to be, to place homœopathy upon a level with all the absurdities and delusions with which, from time immemorial, the credulity of the ignorant has been imposed on, and to argue, that because cures have sometimes been effected by strongly inciting the imagination, therefore, homœopathy is a humbug, and all its practitioners and supporters are only the dupes of their own imaginations, which have been incited to faith, by what should be regarded as only accidental successes. It is amusing, to observe the expedients to which he resorts for the accomplishment of this purpose.

He commences by telling us that there are in Egypt two classes of physicians, the native practitioners, who profess to cure all diseases by charms and amulets, by swallowing a masked prayer, or an extract from the Koran; and the English and French physicians, who practice according to the rules of modern medicine. He says he "was much struck lately on hearing an intelligent native of Egypt declare that it often appeared as if the old practitioners achieved the greater proportion of cures," and then adds "*this fact* for we can well imagine it to be one," (*that is a fact*) seems worthy of some philosophic consideration."

Indeed, a distinguished advocate of allopathy, of sufficient influence to procure for his article an insertion in a journal of extensive circulation, and of such high pretensions as Chambers' Journal is certainly worthy, asserts that he believes it to be a fact, that the "old native practitioners" of Egypt cure more patients by the use of "charms and amulets," than educated allopathic physicians can cure, "*who practice according to the rules of modern science.*" *A fact worthy of philosophic consideration!* Most certainly of *philosophic*, not *speculative*, but *scientific* consideration.

The highest attainment of medical science, is to cure, to cure the greatest number of those who are afflicted with disease, and that system of medicine, be it ancient or modern, that cures most fre-

quently, and most certainly, whether it be by charms and amulets, or by any other available means, is certainly the most scientific, and most worthy of high estimation. From the showing then of this defender of allopathy "The old native practitioners" of Egypt are more scientific physicians than the modern allopaths. Oh! allopathy, how low hast thou fallen! prostrate at the feet of charms and amulets!

But the writer of this article, in giving some "philosophic consideration" to this subject, supposes that the cures which the irregular practitioner effects, act upon his credulity and inspire him with faith in the efficacy of the means he uses, so that it is really to credulity and not to the efficacy of the means that we are to attribute his success.

Does not the writer perceive that he has made a misuse of the term philosophic. He should have said speculative. He speculates; He does not philosophize, a hundred other speculations equally plausible might be indulged in. For example. Irregular practice, even "charms and amulets," by the showing of this writer, cure more than allopathic drugs administered "according to the rules of modern medicine." But charms and amulets evidently can exert no influence upon disease—may it not be a philosophic deduction then, that allopathic drugs kill a portion, inasmuch as more recover under the influence of charms and amulets, which exert no positive influence, than under the influence of allopathic medication. Such speculations become philosophic, only when the postulates become facts; but we would hope for the credit of allopathy that the postulates in this case are also speculations, and that allopathy does indeed cure some, though less than it might do if it were like homœopathy, a rational and philosophic system of medicine.

As an illustration of the influence of credulity, the writer tells us of a young man in England who practiced the art of shampooing as a remedy, so successfully, that his receipts were estimated at 6,000 pounds sterling, about 30,000 dollars a year. He also gives a history of the metallic tractors, and draws an inference, that as Dr. Haygarth and Dr. Falconer were able to produce the same results with painted wooden ones, therefore the metallic tractors were of no real benefit, unless it were by inciting the imagination—Having thus as he supposes prepared the way, he makes his final onslaught upon the homœopathic system as follows:

"In our own day, we have seen a gigantic system of what may be

called uncanonical medicine arise under the name of homœopathy; and it is still running its course. Its leading dogmas are—that diseases are curable by the articles which naturally produce similar affections in healthy persons, and that these must be administered in infinitesimally small doses. The explanation of an infinitesimally small dose, gives a key to the character of the system. Take a grain of aconite, for example, and mix it up in a certain quantity of water; then take a drop of this water, and diffuse it through a similar quantity of pure water; then let a drop of that again be diluted in like manner; and so on for *thirty times*, in which case it is arithmetically demonstrable that you have the original grain diffused through a mass of water many millions of millions of times larger than the whole earth: a globule or small pill containing some of this infusion becomes the approved dose! At this moment, there are hundreds of respectable men practising homœopathy: as one remarkable fact, there are three shops for the sale of this peculiar medicine in our own city. It is understood to be in many instances more lucrative than the ordinary practice; yet we see no reason to doubt that the practitioners are in general, well-meaning and earnest men. There are many curious stories told illustrative of the illusory character of the system. We shall not repeat them, because we do not wish unnecessarily to give offence. But we may be allowed to say that according to the best judgment we can form regarding homœopathy, we are left no room to doubt that the views of its practitioners are founded in almost unmixed error.”

“One first, but hitherto neglected step is, in our opinion, necessary in order to guard mankind against empiricisms in medicine; and this is an acknowledgment of the fact that, in many instances, a cure *has* followed the medicine or treatment, joined, however, with an explanation as to this cure.

“In the first place, it may be connected with the taking of the medicine, or the submission to the treatment, merely in point of time. Contrary to the common notion, that a disease, if left to itself, will go on to a fatal conclusion, it is much more apt to go on to a recovery. ‘Men,’ says Dr. Simpson, ‘labouring under diseases, even the most acute, and consequently much more so under slighter ailments, do not as a general rule die, even when left without any medical treatment whatever.’ There is an internal energy in the system, recognised as the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, which constantly

works to the effecting of a cure ; and often it does so with so much success, that the less positive interference from without the better. Such being the case, it is evident that where a medical attendant merely rubs some part of the body, administers a visionary or otherwise innocuous medicine, or acts in any other way indifferently to the actual disease, that disease may be all the time abating of itself, not in any way affected by the treatment, to which, accordingly, the cure can only be attributed under a mistake.

In the second place, there are cases in which the medicine or treatment may be said to have really affected a cure, more or less thorough and permanent, but in a wholly indirect manner. Its effect in these cases is owing to the intervention of a mental affection on the part of the patient. The maladies to which this principle applies are chiefly of a nervous character. The treatment is an application to the nervous system, which may be called the main spring of the human constitution ; it is so far, then, an intelligible process. At one time we see a Valentine Greatrakes giving out that he can cure all diseases by stroking the affected part with the hand ; at another, we have a Prince Hohenlœe undertaking to heal the whole of a certain class of ailments in a distant province by his prayers, on the sole condition that the patients have faith in him, and pray to the same purpose at the same time. Or, perhaps, there is a belief, connected with the religious creed of the individual, that if he pilgrimise to a certain saint's well, or tomb, or shrine, and there go through certain ceremonies, his malady will leave him. Or it may simply be, that some mystical-looking system of therapeutics, like homœopathy, has acquired a hold upon the faith of the patient. In all cases, the patients are taught to expect something wonderful. A real effect is consequently wrought in them ; and under the powerful impulse given for the moment to the nervous system, the bedrid finds he can rise, the paralytic throws away his crutches, the deaf hears, and even tumours and ulcers subside and are dried up. The possibility of such cures by such means is established beyond all contradiction. One noted case, often alluded to in medical works, is that of the besieged inhabitants of Breda, who, when invalided and bedrid with scurvy and other complaints, were rapidly restored to health by drinking of the solution of what they were told was a very precious drug smuggled into the town, for their especial benefit, by the Prince of

Orange, but which was confessedly only a little colored water. We are told that Sir Humphry Davy cured a paralytic man in a fortnight, by placing daily under his tongue the bulb of a pocket thermometer, from which the patient was led to believe that he inhaled a gas of sovereign virtue. M. Huc informs us, in his amusing *Travels in Tartary*, that the Lama there cures all diseases by vegetable pills; but 'if he happens not to have any medicine with him, he is by no means disconcerted: he writes the names of the remedies upon little scraps of paper, moistens the paper with his saliva and rolls them up into pills, which the patient tosses down with the same perfect confidence as if they were genuine medicaments. To swallow the *name* of a remedy, or the *remedy itself*, comes, say the Tartars, to precisely the same thing!'

"It is, we conceive, entirely owing to the fact that diseases thus so frequently vanish under empiric treatment, either in a mere connection of time, or through an indirect efficacy in the treatment, that empiricism takes such a hold of the public mind—nay, that so many medical men, from whom better things are expected, adopt empiric styles of practice. The alleged facts are real; they are candidly accepted, and honestly acted on; only, they are all the time misinterpreted. What is first, and above all, required accordingly, in order to save the world from quackery, is, that we meet its practitioners, defenders, and victims, on the ground of an acknowledgment and explanation of these facts. Till this is done, it will, we believe, be quite in vain to hold up to ridicule or lamentation the attestations given by nobles, clergymen, professors, and others, in favour of the cures effected by the Perkinses and the St. John Longs, or to deplore that homœopathy brings some men their six thousand a year, while honourable allopathists can sometimes hardly obtain a subsistence. When this is done, and medicine has become a scientific system, we may hope to see true therapeutics aided by the imagination as much as quackeries have been, and the orthodox doctor allowed the full gain which he deserves."

I am conscious of having given much more prominence to the above article, than, if viewed on its merits, it justly deserves, and shall plead my apology only, in the distinguished reputation, and extensive circulation, of the periodical in which the article itself appeared; for surely it required but little talent or learning, to repeat the stale objections against our science of medicine, which

have, for a long time, been often and fruitlessly urged against it. For however frequently it may be asserted by men professing "*themselves to be wise*," that the 30th dilution of Sulphur can have no possible efficacy, such assertions will never be believed by those who are cognizant of the facts, viz: that nearly all forms of diseases to which Sulphur is applicable, disappear more rapidly, under the administration of the 30th dilution, than they have ever been known to do under the administration of massive doses of the same drug, and so of other remedies.

But why does this writer call Homœopathy a "*Mystical-looking system of therapeutics*?" There is nothing mysterious about it but its simplicity; and indeed it may truly be said of homœopathy that its simplicity is its greatest mystery. It depends upon a law of similarity, the truthfulness of which is illustrated, by every careful observation of facts, and upon a law of divisibility, the necessity for which is seen in all the processes of growth and repair, as well as in nearly all the changes that occur in the works of nature. Its simplicity evinces its relation to the more exact sciences, and separates it, by a broad line of demarcation, from the mysticisms of old school therapeutics. There is then no mystery in homœopathy, unless it be a mystery to an old school physician, that the law for the administration of medicine, should, like all the laws of science, be so simple, so exact, and so uniform in its application, and in its results. This simplicity of Homœopathy is the simplicity of science. Allopathy alone is a mystery.

But the greatest difficulty this writer has with homœopathy, after all, is probably alluded to in the last paragraph of his article, where he appears "*to deplore that Homœopathy brings some men their six thousand a year, while Allopathists can hardly obtain a comfortable subsistence*."

This is the difficulty; or as Hamlet says, "*That's the rub*"—"Our craft is in danger." The people will not pay us for our drugs, because the Homœopathic pellets cure them quicker and better; only that if we can convince the people that they are not cured, that it is only imagination, and that homœopathy is a humbug, why we may keep them a little longer in the old track, but otherwise, it is all in vain for us "*to hold up to ridicule the attestations of nobles, clergymen, professors, and others, in favor of the cures effected by it*." Now, as the people believe that St. John Longs, and the Perkinses, were all

humbugs, let us teach them that Homœopathy is so too, and thus enable ourselves to retain our influence over them a little longer, and drive these homœopaths into the shade, otherwise that young Giant, Homœopathy, will take the very bread out of our mouths.

Such are the straits to which Homœopathy has already brought Allopathy in the old world; and those who oppose its progress might do well to study a certain passage of the sacred writings. "*Whosoever falleth upon this stone shall be broken, but upon whomsoever it shall fall it shall grind him to powder.*"

TRANSFORMATIONS AND PROPERTIES OF MATTER.

BY JOHN F. GEARY, M. D.

(Continued from page 270, No. 5, Vol. IV.)

THE revelations of the microscope have thrown open to us worlds sublime in their littleness. The labors of the experimental philosopher have taught us that we must look for the greatness of matter in its impalpable and imperceptible molecules, which singly, or in combination, produce results equally grand, whether their sphere of action be the orbit of a planet, or the primitive *nucleolus*, in the composition of one of that singular race of beings of which three hundred thousand are not equal in bulk to a grain of sand! The vast body of atmosphere which surrounds our globe, extending above its surface to the height of thirty-four or five miles, exerting a pressure equal to fifteen pounds upon every square inch of surface with which it comes in contact, which is as much a substance as stone, iron, or steel, admitting of being condensed, expanded, heated, cooled, weighed and measured, is composed of particles so infinitely small that it is imperceptible not only to the naked eye, but to the most powerful microscopes yet invented; even when submitted in its largest masses and condensed to the utmost powers of mechanical contrivance! And even the next substance in density to atmosphere and gaseous bodies in general, *water*, though clearly proved to be composed of globules which admit the globules of other bodies of greater density between them without any increase in volume or bulk, so that a considerable quantity of salt or sugar may

be added to a full glass of water without overflowing the vessel ; and a pint of spirits of wine mixed with an equal quantity of water, will fall short of a quart—does not reveal to our closest scrutiny its molecular particles.

But let us interrogate matter directly and a little more in detail, with the experimental philosopher and the chemist as our interpreters ; let us submit our wants—either those of utility or curious and interesting speculation—note her answers, and turn to account the supplies she is ready to grant.

Every one has felt the “big round drop” of perspiration gather upon his heated forehead and roll down his face—whence does it come ? It has forced its way through no less than one hundred and twenty-five little fountains (the orifices of the sudoriparous glands), which one grain of sand would cover.

How large was the seed that produced that lycoperdon, or puff-ball ? We have played with it in our boyish days. The diameter of a single hair is about one hundred and twenty-five thousand times as great as the organized germ which produced that little puff-ball ! You press it between your fingers,—but mind your eyes and the direction of the wind—see what a cloud of seeds it produces ! each particle will produce a lycoperdon, if it fall upon fruitful soil—how many puff-balls would these millions of millions that float in the sunbeams bring forth ? I know not—let him who is bold in his positive denials of the active powers of small particles of matter give the answer ! Ask that perfumed dandy-doctor the source of that odor which he diffuses wherever his presence comes ; he may reply, “I occupy a chamber twelve feet square, in a drawer, which I keep a little open, I have deposited *a single grain of musk*, the atmosphere in my room, which I find to be more than two millions of cubic inches is perfumed by my grain of musk, and there are many thousands of particles in each cubic inch and the air is ever changing. Now for many years I have enjoyed this nasal luxury, and my grain of musk is not perceptibly diminished in bulk, though it would be difficult to calculate the number of particles of real, actual matter which have escaped from it in that time.”

But, *apropos*, what do you think of *Homœopathic doses* ? “They are ineffective, Sir,—ineffective, impossible for quantities *so small* to be otherwise.” Sir, you are an *exquisite—reasoner*, your analogy holds wonderfully well ! How thin is this gold leaf ? There is no

estimate nearer than that we find three hundred and sixty thousand such leaves, laid one over the other, would measure an *inch in thickness*! And that a grain of gold may be beaten out so as to cover a surface measuring fifty square inches! The ingenious wire-drawer, with sixteen ounces of gold, will engage to supply silver-gilt wire enough to circumscribe the whole globe! And that wire will be *as much* gold, and *look as much like* gold, as the mighty cable-chains and enormous signet-rings which decorate our dandies! Go, interrogate the sheep, the silk-worm and the spider—the sheep says, a pound of my fleece may be spun so fine as to extend ninety-five miles! the silk-worm declares that a pound of the fibres she produces will extend to the distance of five hundred and eighty-three miles! but the spider creeps in and claims the golden medal “for fine thread,” by producing a pound that will measure the equatorial circumference of the earth!

There is a subtle fluid which prevades the universe, runs through the composition of all known substances in greater or in less quantities—its combined masses rend the clouds of heaven—its swift and fiery sweep is followed by a more threatening and terrible roar than all those terror-inspiring engines which the destructive and vengeful genius of war has ever been able to produce. Superstition, fear and ignorance have even endued it with the extraordinary property of expressing the outpourings of the angry and malevolent passions of HIM whose *name* was the denial of aught of evil.—True, the searching lamp of science has enabled us to tear away this dark mantle, and bring into clearer view and brighter light the *very lightning* of heaven! The minor developments of this wondrous fluid though the finest points which art can contrive, affords them ample space for exit, are palpable to the touch, obedient to the human will, at the option of human contrivance to run from point to point, from city to city, fly round the globe, through mid-air, under the bosom of the earth or the depths of the ocean, to convey, in legible words, a message of peace, or war,—a word to set the wheels of commerce in swifter motion, the doleful sounds of domestic lamentations and wo, or the joyous accents of increased happiness, and unexpected prosperity! And yet who has, or can, measure us the bulk, the dimensions, the quantity of the primary atoms of ELECTRICITY? Will you, ye objurgators of small doses? Will you, whose faith has been chained for thousands of years to crude masses, who believe that nothing can have medical

efficacy unless its bulk is formidable and its appeals to the human organism disgusting? Learn from the facts we note, and which such of you as understand aught about them, cannot deny, the *might of littleness*, and be wise and useful.

There is another phenomenon which, to our mind, stands in very close relation to that just mentioned, and a no less pointed illustration of the subject in hand. It is indeed one which has of late *made much noise in the world*; and has become as much an object of reverential awe to some, as of contempt and ridicule to others:—both parties may be in extremes. A third party is neutral, lest they may be accused of the fanaticism of the former, or of the levity and thoughtlessness of the latter. This last fact is much to be lamented, as it is only from men of sound mind, trained intellects, clear heads and cool imaginations, we can hope for a true scientific solution of this, or any other natural phenomenon. We know that in all ages and countries, untaught and over-fanciful minds have found an easy solution for all natural wonders, which had their origin in causes beyond their comprehension, in referring them to supernatural agency, either divine or diabolical. Of the numbers whose cunning and cupidity turned this credulity to sources of gain and power, it is unnecessary to speak. But by degrees men, whose mental culture and reasoning powers enabled them to overleap the obstacles of their own times and the prejudices of the past, grappled with these fancied monsters of human terror, stripped them of their powers, and reduced them to the condition of willing and useful servants in the economy of civilization. Still, though it may seem hazardous to venture an opinion on the true nature of a phenomenon, which many look upon as uttering the views and feelings of “*departed spirits*” upon so many questions,—albeit not those of vital importance—and to rank it only with such as come within the range of the experimental philosopher, and in which the utilitarian may by and by find his account,—to strip it of its “spiritual” character and use it as an apt illustration of the vast powers of *minute material atoms*;—we cannot help following the promptings of our genius, leaving those who choose to cavil, and trusting to the future for a clearly contradictory voice from “the world of spirits,” or a confirming demonstration from the hill of science. Let a common deal table be provided, as light as possible for its own sake, and as many ordinary persons of one, or both sexes, as may find it convenient, is

round it. By "ordinary persons," we mean every-day, commonplace people; matter-of-fact folks are best;—blue people, mystical people, *ideal* people, poetical people, very fanciful people, and easily-frightened people, the worst:—ten to one but these will become half crazy and spoil your experiments:—being seated comfortably round, let each person lay the palms of the hands on the table just opposite to him, and for a few minutes await the result. Now if the experimentists are as successful as ours—which were conducted exactly as described, the following results will appear.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

(For the Philadelphia Journal.)

OBITUARY.

James D. Bratt, M. D., of Waterproofs, La., died of Yellow Fever, in that place, on the 22d of last September.

Dr. Bratt was the eldest son of Mr. Edward Bratt of Pittsburgh; and a graduate of the Pennsylvania Homœopathic College, in the class of 1852. He located in the practice of Homœopathy, at Waterproofs, nearly three years ago. His thorough qualifications and kindly address, soon won him the favor and patronage of many of the most respectable, in that community.

His efforts in curing, being crowned with eminent success, he had the satisfaction of finding himself, in less than three years, establish in a wide and lucrative practice.

But in the morning, as it were, of the bright day of his prosperity and usefulness, the destroying angel crossed his pathway and took him hence.

The Yellow fever appeared at Waterproofs in the middle part of September.

All who well could do so, fled to places of safety; but he, constrained by a sense of duty to those remaining, thought not of places of safety for himself. As usual he visited the sick and did all in power to stay the hand of death.

It was not long however, till symptoms of the fever were manifest in him: and notwithstanding the persuasion and entreaties of friends, he could not be prevailed upon, for several hours, to regard

himself sick and in need of medicine. When at length the disease had progressed so far, that he began to prescribe for himself, (he had no one with him who could prescribe homœopathically,) his friends thought best to call a physician; and by his direction sent for Dr. W. H. Holcombe, of Natchez.

Upon the arrival of Dr. Holcombe, the fever was at a point, indicating imminent danger.

Still it was next to impossible, so insidious was the progress of the disease, to convince Dr. Bratt, that his life was in jeopardy.

Dr. Holcombe remained with him as long as circumstances at home would permit. He came again to Waterproofs, in accordance with promise, but only to look upon the lifeless form of his youthful colleague.

In closing this notice, we will simply add, as our ardent hope, that the Philadelphia College will send more such young men into the South and West, to raise the standard of Homœopathy and thus to stay the march of disease and death.

Give us only men as well qualified, as pure and as preserving, as Dr. Bratt, and we shall never fear of the future, of the true healing art.

D.

EDITORIAL.

*"Nubila disjecit, nimbisque Aquilone remotis,
Et cœlo terras ostendit, et æthera terris."*

GENIUS is the offspring of Heaven. Science is her eldest born. Art was begotten of Science by Necessity. This triumvirate of Royal Children are the joint-heirs of the Universe—to subdue, control and direct its three-fold nature—physical, vital and rational. To restrict them by local limits,—to ascribe to them any narrow sphere of action—to claim them as the especial patrons of a nation, a country, a people, a sect or class, would be to argue a serious want of acquaintance with their long and glorious reign over the happiness and destinies of the human family. Wherever man has successfully conquered his own barbarous nature, the beasts of the forest and the field, the rugged barrenness of the soil, and the waters of the deep, he has been guided and assisted by their enlightened powers. In the civilizing march of the human legion through Assyria,

Phœnicia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, Gaul, Britain and Columbia, their sceptre has been wielded with impartial justice, and the sword passed from hand to hand with its edge unabraded, its sheen untarnished, and its metal unadulterated. Their gifts have been distributed, like the blessings of the god of day, upon no meted scale, but each man in the ranks to the full extent of his powers of appreciation, capacity for enjoyment, and ability to apply, became the recipient of their bounty. And to-day in the long, unbroken line of progress toward the extreme bounds at which Phœbus wheels his horses again, on their eastern flight, the sceptre and sword of the celestial triumvirate still exercise the same impartial rule over each division, section and individual member of these mighty myriads, collected from all kindreds, nations and tribes upon the face of the earth.—Genius, Science and Art dwell with each, with all, cementing their kindred natures by closer ties, drawing them nearer by firmer bonds and proving their common origin by more conclusive arguments than those drawn from a common physical outline, or the common properties of their component parts—a common mental structure and development—a common mental capacity to investigate, analyze and prove—a common, divine and heaven-ward aspiration prompting their worship and devotion at the altars and shrines of the heaven-born sisters. In this empire of ours, then, there is neither Jew nor Gentile, Greek or Barbarian, bond nor free :—Genius, Science and Art are the “all in all” of our human brotherhood. But though all are worshippers at the altars as well as soldiers in the ranks, all are not, and never have been, *priests* to minister within the tabernacle. Though the gifts and graces are free to all,—all do not possess them in a like degree or measure ; and it is this measure or degree only that indicates the place of the votary,—whether he shall minister near the throne or stand and devoutly worship in the great congregation. It has never been conducive to the peace, harmony, or stability of our empire when the decency and order that have pre-eminently marked it in all ages, have been disturbed or violated by bold and restless spirits, dissatisfied with their natural and suitable station, presuming to wear the stole of the sophist, the robe of the minister, or the cap of the professor,—intruding themselves into those sacred precincts, from which they should respectfully stand aloof, and venerate with becoming reverence at the prescribed and proper distance. Whatever troubles have disturbed our peace, whatever

obstructions have detained us on our course, whatever mists and obscurities have beclouded, for a time, our most glorious achievements, are owing chiefly to such internal troubles as these. And though, like him who, with youthful inexperience, that savored of presumption, essayed to guide the horses of the sun, their temerity has ever ended in their own downfall, still darkness, destruction and terror, have marked the course of their fearful darings! Holding these principles, it will not be supposed that our Journal could lend its influence to the dissemination of a low standard of professional morals, to the restrictive code that would exclude any deserving and qualified laborer from our field of action and discovery, or shut out with gates of brass and iron the devout pilgrims of science that may have made long and weary journeys, prompted by their devotion, whom the accident of birth may have separated, and an unknown tongue made still greater strangers. The language lately held in various articles in this periodical, which the present editorial department desires neither to repudiate or retract, may seem to a superficial reader to have a different aim and end, to strike at a *people* rather than at *principles*, at a *class*, rather than at their abuses and errors. And though we entertain no doubt as to the construction which that class of our readers, whose good opinion we are solicitous to deserve and retain, have put upon the language and its motives, we are willing to place the matter in such a light that no one can mistake, or misconstrue, our meaning, or too harshly judge of the organ that has opened its pages to contributions that aimed at the correction of abuses, the warding off dangers, and the exposure of fallacies which loomed fearfully and ominously in the distance over our glorious science. To us the accidents of birth and language are neither a recommendation nor a barrier. The scholar, the thinker, the professional man, who knows his mission and loves it, recognizes no such distinction, admits no such disqualification. Philosophy travels with the sun, and the children of Philosophy have always found, and shall ever find a home, friends and a hospitable welcome in every clime upon which he sheds his beams. Our school asks not, and should never ask, *where* a man was born. She should only ask, nay, *demand*, his *credentials*, before he takes our name and is enrolled in our ranks. This demand can neither be deemed offensive or oppressive to him who has a clear title to prove his rank; it is even a privilege and a favour to vouchsafe the investigation that removes

doubt, and places him at once,—though his birth-place and Alma Mater be at the antipodes,—in the same social position, and in the same degree, as to professional rank, with natives of the soil whose progress from the cradle to the professor's chair, has been before the eyes of the community. An objection to such a requirement furnishes the ground for grave surmise regarding his claims to titles of which he is unwilling to produce the deeds. To a man who fears that his reception may not be cordial, or that the people on whose shores he is cast, by adverse winds and waves, may assume a hostile attitude, it may not only be proper, but prudent, to move about enveloped in clouds—like the Trojan leader in Carthage, till the spirit of the inhabitants may be clearly revealed; but when no such fears are entertained, Venus may well be excused lending her heavenly garments as terrestrial coverings; and the stranger, for his own sake, should “walk in the light.” It would be both unnatural and inconsistent in one who owns a foreign land for his birth-place and educational advantages, and claims nothing from his adopted country beyond the right of naturalized citizenship, and the protection of her laws, while he exchanges his labor for what it is worth in the open market, to rail against those who are laboring under like disadvantages—if such there be—who are equally qualified to meet with modest and humble demeanor the claims which their professions involve. But we wage no such unnatural war, we enlist in no such unholy crusade; and were we, or any one else, so unprincipled and ill-natured as to be guilty of such unbrotherly conduct, the good sense, the good feeling, the love of justice and fair dealing, which pervade the ranks of the profession, would soon check the unbridled licentiousness, and claim reparation for the injured and insulted. No, ours is the war of justice with injustice, of knowledge with pretension, of real merit with assumption, arrogance and self-glorification—of qualified men with intruders, whose social position and medical qualifications are alike mysterious and beclouded;—of men who have devoted their time, labor, talents and money to securing the necessary acquirements for public safety and public confidence, with those who demand *equal rights* and advantages upon the mere strength of bold and arrogant professions, which they assume to be above being challenged or called into question! Nor is this all. We only claim the rights and merits due to such qualifications against those who *attempt to override and*

nullify them, and to establish an ascendancy for their own disadvantages, which is injurious to us, dangerous to the people and disgraceful to an honorable profession. So that it appears almost hazardous to the reputation of a well-bred and educated gentleman to be publicly recognized under the same professional designation. We war not only with *Germans*, but with *all men of all lands*, who are involved in the same category. During the forty or fifty years of progress in which our system has accomplished so much for the world and the profession, its many and serious abuses have been overlooked or connived at in the midst of the glare of our triumphant success, till they have become at last intolerable. The weeds have grown so numerous and so rank that they threaten to overtop, stunt and destroy the healthy plants which struggle for existence in our field! Our ranks are crowded with hordes of illiterate, hungry-looking, low-bred men, having neither the address, bearing, appearance or manners of decent mechanics, and far below well-trained servants! Men who seem to have been shaken off in disgust and contempt from the lowest menial occupations;—whose vulgar jargon, crest-fallen appearance, sneaking and plebeian manners, or bold and impudent swagger, are too clear evidences of the schools in which they have been trained. It is needless to say that these men, having no medical qualification from any legally authorized source, find it their interest to bring into disrepute all means and institutions organized for medical education, and as the only safe-guard to the people against the most terrible calamities. The apparent simplicity of our therapeutic practice—in the eyes of ignorant and superficial persons—has tempted a large class of men to adopt a “profession” as a living—and even as a means of acquiring wealth—who starved at simple mechanical callings, or who lacked intelligence sufficient for any mercantile pursuits. Strange as this may seem, the reasons are palpable enough. Every hour of the day, and even every ray of light shows the character and quality of all descriptions of trades and handicraft—and all men are competent judges. Here every one’s retort to the language of the boaster is,

“Idou, Rhódos idou kai tò pédema.”

See, here is Rhodes, and there is the leap!

But who can challenge the boasters in letters, or in medicine? who can

judge of the character and quality of their attainments? It is evident that but a small portion of the community is at all qualified to test the merits or pretensions of those who assume either the position of professional men or scholars;—and that men who are qualified to judge are kept aloof by obvious reasons from ever coming in contact with those whose society, or even approach, they consider contaminating. And when they raise their voice in pity to a suffering community, their advice and cautions are met by “*O, he is in their way!*” And in disgust the friends of truth, humanity and science turn aside, allow imposture to flourish and the people to suffer. It is clear that as long as their cunning supplies the quacks and charlatans with the caution and prudence necessary to restrain them from overt acts that would expose too glaringly and too publicly their real merits and characters, they can flourish and thrive upon the credulity of the people! The two professions most liable and open to such abuses are clearly *our own*, and *the profession of letters*. A man sets up for a scholar; but who will, or can, or has even the right to examine him? He “*teaches*” French, German or Greek to those who know not a word of either, and therefore, cannot judge whether he is dealing out to them the slang of the provinces or the language of fashionable life. He commences author, “collects scraps from every quarter,” dove-tails them together as best he can,—“*a book is made*”—and the “*author*” stands immortal among men of letters! Well may the literary laurels of our day be deemed hardly worth the wearing. Although these abuses and impostures are of a grave and serious nature to some of the best interests of the community, yet they do not endanger health and life. This calamity is reserved for the abuses that have found their way into the medical profession, and from which neither the Old nor the New school can claim exemption. But as the former, for various reasons, can better afford that quackery, imposture and incompetency should cling around them than we can, we therefore, have the greater need to look well to the condition of affairs among us, lest the people should find that it is not safe to trust their best interests in the hands of men who are not sufficiently careful of their own grade and public character to maintain them uncontaminated. We seem to forget that the public set any value upon the “*Esprit de corps*,” which a body of honorable gentlemen should never forget, and which is as necessary to

the honor of their own ranks, as it is safe to those who confide in their qualifications and integrity. This degradation of our order, has now become so glaring, so common, so undisguised that the surest and best qualifications for a place of distinction among us are *want of a college diploma, inability to spell* the commonest words of English, to write, with the degree of decency expected of a stable-boy, a few words of our language, to be able to understand the colloquial phraseology of the day, and in like style to communicate with the people, and finally, to have deserted some low occupation, or fled from distant lands, whither it is impossible to trace one's antecedents! Such being the passports to our camp, such being the distinctive characteristics of a vast number of those who have enrolled themselves among us, it would not appear unreasonable to ask if these things are always to remain so? If there are any means possible to enable us to effect a separation between these men and the members of our profession, who think some degree of education and the legal warrant of a college necessary for physicians? Surely, we have not all fallen so low in this country as not to have among us many who are equally anxious to push this inquiry, equally desirous to free themselves from the disgrace of being classed with impostors who attempt to diagnose disease by some cabalistic jugglery as fraudulent and contemptible as the secret nostrums by which they pretend to cure! Who are not content to be obliged to give daily answers in the negative to the question, whether *this* or *that mystic* or *pseudo-medical philosopher* is not at the "*top of our heap*." It is not enough that the truth of our therapeutic law has been established by years of successful practice, and that many worthy and deserving members of our school have made handsome fortunes by their practice; there are other interests that might well deserve a passing notice, and claim some attention at their hands. It might be worth while to unite in adopting some measures which would free the profession from the disgraceful abuses to which we have alluded, and secure the people from the daily impositions and injuries they suffer under cover of our name—under the assumed title of our order. We think the time has arrived in this country when it should be distinctly and forcibly inculcated that a "domestic physician" and a few little bottles of "medicated" globules do not make even "Homœopathic doctors"—when long lists of symptoms jumbled together—the fanciful, the deceptive, the medical, the acci-

dental in one chaotic mass—in a brain that has only the absorbent quality of retaining, like the brain of the camel, or the horse, impressions forced upon it by long labor and constant repetition during a series of years; should not be deemed the only necessary qualification to raise a man to the head of our order and procure for him the reputation of a philosopher;—when the *certificate* of an individual “doctor,” *without* attention to lectures, college curriculum, or hospital clinics, should not give a broken-down mechanic or farmer, a status in our midst,—when the license of an “Academy” to practice an art, which the “graduate” has yet to acquire, should admit of doubt as to its validity, and raise a question as to whether we shall call its owner in consultation when life hangs upon an opinion! It is no unreasonable or oppressive usage, we repeat, which requires a stranger to produce his letters of introduction and credentials before he is received into the social circle, or treated with on the subject of important negotiations. He is only the more honored in producing the evidence that proves him to be worthy of distinction and high trusts among those who know him best. It could hardly be less reasonable, and surely, it would seem equally useful and important, that the stranger, whether born in a distant part of our native soil, or in a foreign land, who takes his place by our side as a neighbor and a brother, expecting and claiming a free exchange of social and professional courtesies, should be expected to produce his credentials and titles. It would certainly be the shortest mode of “*making himself known*” to his brethren, of securing their confidence, and through their good offices, kindly greetings and words of commendation, the confidence and patronage of the public,—which no man should expect or receive without deserving. We have hastily thrown these hints together for the purpose of directing the minds of the profession to this subject—by no means an unimportant one—believing that with little trouble or loss of time an understanding can be arrived at, and an organization formed in our own city and country—and be a signal to others—to take up this very serious matter, and to correct for the future the recurrence of evils and abuses which we must now bear and outlive as we can, till the spirit of our motto is realized, after the storms have ceased, the waters abated, *the clouds swept away, and the heavens look down upon the earth which reflects back their light with all its truthfulness, grandeur and sublimity.*

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — JANUARY, 1856. — No. X.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

OUR LITERATURE.—A REVIEW.

BY JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M. D.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 548, VOL. 4.)

WHAT WAS HAHNEMANN?

*"Inventum medicina meum est, opiferque per orbem
Decor, et herbarum subjecta potentia nobis."*—OVID.

THROUGH all the shifting scenes on the "stage of life," we find, first, that "one man *is born with a silver spoon in his mouth* and another *with a wooden ladle*,"—second, that "some men *have greatness thrust upon them*,"—and third, that other men *achieve greatness*.

The accidental circumstances, as to the rank, station or fortune, attendant upon the entrance of each member of the human race into the world, is briefly set forth in the first of the above simple propositions. It includes all from the tent of the Gipsy to the Imperial bed-chamber, and embraces even these two extremes. At the moment when the lungs expand with the first breath of vital air, and the first feeble cry announces the advent of another heir to the common lot, the "silver spoon" or the "wooden ladle" only marks the difference in condition between the embryo peasant and the prince.

Under the second is indicated, with sufficient clearness, the power and influence of which large numbers become the objects in after life, at the mere will of their fellows;—and the third enunciates that only condition of true greatness, which is open alike to all, but reached only by virtue of individual or personal merits. A large

proportion of those who come into life as the favorites of fortune, go through the world with the "silver spoon" still tenaciously held between their teeth, living upon the supplies it yields, and, after having led this "spooney" sort of existence for the time allotted to each, leave to the future world the memento of their mundane sojourn, in the monumental inscription "*that they were born upon one day and died upon another.*"

Those who, by the command or at the instigation of others, are forced into positions of power and exalted station,—the monarchs of kingdoms or presidents of commonwealths,—although a great thought, or a great deed, may never have distinguished them from the common crowd, are, *ex-officio*, great;—though a single ray of mental light may never have radiated from their passive faces, they still shine by the reflection of their borrowed splendor. This is a glory without greatness to which distance lends its effect and enchantment,—the mere stage-dress and studied postures which for an hour make a common man a king. It is only among those who have *achieved* greatness for themselves that we must look for that grandeur which dignifies the few members of our race whose monuments are to be seen in every age and found in every country. And, since we must admit that few, if any, are accounted great before death, we must look for the real character of men in the works they have left to posterity. These are the true exponents of character, indeed the only testimonials to which we can trust. And, therefore, in endeavouring to answer the question we have proposed, we need only turn to the works which Hahnemann has left behind him, and with which our literature is enriched, to give the best and most satisfactory answer to the inquiry. Whatever may be thought of this remarkable man by his over-zealous admirers, or by the too severe opponents of his medical reformation, there is no doubt but his name shall forever find a foremost place among the men who have *achieved greatness*. Although his name has been before the medical world for many years more prominently than that of any other man of his time, still, how few know Hahnemann so as to be able to answer our question satisfactorily.

The majority of his followers and admirers have a vague notion about his being some one, who by some means or other, stumbled over the law indicated by the words, "*similia similibus curantur,*" by a sort of lucky accident while he was making all the haste he

could, by half doing every thing that came in his way, "to push ahead and make money!" whilst his enemies set him down as a half-crazy fanatic, who was so unworthy as to offer a "secret nostrum" for sale to advance his private interest. Both parties are in error. If we are to seek the man *in his works*—and where else should we seek?—we shall form a very different estimate of this great medical Reformer. He will there appear as the laborious student from his very earliest days, the accomplished scholar, the ardent inquirer after truth, the untiring searcher for new and valuable improvements in every thing he touched, the close, careful and exact experimentalist,—who in his first and best days never suffered fancy to usurp the place of facts,—the true philanthropist who never lost sight of the weal of the human family, nor contemplated the least of their sufferings without sending all the benevolence of his heart out into the world of science and nature in search of remedies for their cure or palliatives for their amelioration.

As to the little calumnies which would give an undue prominence to this one admitted error of judgment,—committed, perhaps, under the pressure of pinching poverty—that inseparable companion of the great, the worthy and the noble, from the blind beggar-poet of Greece—whose equal has not yet been born—to HIM who could touchingly contrast his own forlornness with the more enviable condition of the wild beasts of the field and the birds of the air,* and from HIM to the last pauper genius,—whom cunning and cupidity had cheated of the fruit of his mental toil,—who died sharing the crust, which charity had bestowed with another who was still poorer,—they may be rebutted by the reply that he whose whole life before and after was only virtuous, noble, honorable and useful, could well afford to make a mistake by which no one has suffered, and which acquires importance only in the eyes of those whose deeds are so obscure and indifferent as to render it necessary for them to turn public attention to some trifling error,—seeming great only by contrast in those who would otherwise be perfect,—that their own uniform and level lives, which a close scrutiny could not even call moral, might escape observation.—Men should feel ashamed of these miserable and worn out accusations by which they attempt to stifle great truths because their authors had at one time been guilty of *one fault*;—as if the spots

* "*The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has not where to lay his head.*"

on the sun's disk, almost invisible in the brightness of his beams, could lessen his glorious light and heat!—"Socrates despised the gods,"—"Christ ate with Pharisees and sinners"—"Luther married a nun,"—and "Hahnemann advertised a nostrum," are the abominable pretexts by which the bigots of those days and of these tried to quench the first dawnings of light, the first unclouded revelations from the God of heaven, the first reformation of overgrown and rampant hierarchal corruption, and the first trustworthy and hopeful advance towards permanent relief for suffering and injured humanity! But this will not do. The works of Hahnemann live. They prove him to be a great scholar, a great thinker, a great discoverer and a great philanthropist in spite of the lukewarmness of friends and the malice of enemies.—We would strongly urge upon both parties the perusal of that portion of his works called "THE LESSER WRITINGS;"—they cannot fail to make them respectively wiser, and better qualified to form an estimate of their master on the one hand, and their opponent on the other. And as the latter *will* maintain the war, it is as well that they should study the depth of the entrenchments behind which we are sheltered. The discovery of the principle, on which we administer medicinal remedies, is only one emanation of the greatness of Hahnemann. None but great men ever make discoveries; and the fact that they have made an important truth known to the world indicates and implies powers and researches equal to the task. If such a discovery had not been possible, the man would be great, nevertheless; the discovery of the law of gravitation was not necessary to make Newton the first philosopher of his own or any other age: it served, however, to bring him more prominently before the world. Now Hahnemann has left us abundant materials to prove his real status as a physician, previous to his great discovery. He had taken so high a position before the most distinguished men of his own country that he was chosen by the princes and nobles of his native land to places of confidence, requiring both learning and skill. Ordinary men do not usually attract so much attention, nor command such lofty patronage. A glance over the valuable works published by him (for an excellent translation of which we are indebted to Dr. Dudgeon, of London,) will prove whether he deserved it or not. These may be read by all parties with advantage. The perusal of his treatise on Syphilis cannot help impressing any one with the fact that it is the work of a master-mind, of one who went to the

bottom of his subject and investigated all that those who went before him had written on that dangerous and terrible disease. Even here we see his spirit of discovery and improvement showing itself by the suggestion of new and better modes of treatment, and by an improved preparation of mercury, which has retained its character to the present day, even among those who otherwise differ from him. This work was written, it is well known, while he practised according to the orthodox system of his day. We shall only refer the reader to the work itself, and give in this place an extract from a popular periodical called the "FRIEND OF HEALTH," published by him a short time after, which illustrates more fully the characteristics and qualities we claim for our Founder than anything we could include in the same space.

The Friend of Health. By Samuel Hahnemann, Doctor of Medicine, Member of the Academy of Sciences of Mentz, and of the Economical Society of Leipzig.

PART I.*—PREFACE.

WHEN we behold the large family of mankind acting as they do, when we see with what perseverance they go through their more or less important spheres of action, which some wretched passion often traces out for them, when we see how they all strive after the attainment of some kind of happiness, be it ease, rank, money, learning, amusement or excitement, scarcely deigning to cast a single glance towards the real blessings of this world, wisdom and health, which beckon them back into Eden, we can scarcely refrain from pitying a race of such noble origin and high destiny. My mission permits me not to point out the means of ennobling the mind; it behooves me only to preach upon the greatest of corporeal blessings, health, which scarcely any take the trouble to seek after, and few know how to value until it is lost. It will scarcely be credited when I assert that nought is shunned more earnestly, nay, is held to be more disgraceful, than rational care about the health. We indeed hear it occasionally remarked that this or the other article of diet is wholesome or hurtful, that this or that remedy is a specific for this or that disease, this or the other habit is injurious; in the higher and lower circles of society, people interest themselves with fashionable modes of treatment, marvellous diseases, cases of sudden death, beautifying remedies, and anecdotes about physicians.

But all this is only vain trifling.

The lover of highly spiced dishes exclaims against the indigestible nature of puddings; the tea-drinker can speak like a book about

* Published at Frankfort on the Main, in 1792.

the evils of spirit-drinking; the lady who has a weakness for coffee talks learnedly on the coarse juices of her who has a liking for beer; and the guzzler of puddings declaims upon the poisonous nature of mushrooms.

Hearken to that gouty fellow how well he can describe the hurtful character of the day-labourer's life; to that young gentleman with his pimple face, how he depicts the disadvantages of a sedentary life; hear how that lady who sticks close to her tapestry work inveighs against the dangers of dancing; and how that dancing nymph points out that much sewing causes green-sickness. All know something, only not what is wholesome for *themselves*.

To take *ourselves* to task about our pernicious habits, to study our own system, to follow the regimen most appropriate for our own constitution, and heroically to deny ourselves everything that has a tendency to undermine our own health, or that may already have done so, to bestow a thought upon all this, is held to be puerile, old-fashioned and vulgar. The courtier rebels at the idea of attending to the advice of his physician on dietetic points; the young lady who excels in dancing would think it beneath her to listen to the warning voice of her mother; the romance-reading damsel scorns to be corrected by the sarcasms of her old-fashioned uncle; and the wild student will not be persuaded by his banker to frequent better company.

I readily grant that excessive concern about one's health is an evil; that there is no occasion for an active lad to trouble himself about fur-boots, for a rosy-cheeked lass to interest herself in the various kinds of obstetric forceps, or for the pleasure-seeker to concern himself about hospitals; but everything has its proper bounds; every human being his particular sphere, which he ought to be thoroughly conversant with, and which he should blush to be unacquainted with.

If the minister of state were to possess no thorough knowledge of medical police, the chief municipal magistrate no accurate notion respecting the arrangement of prisons, workhouses and hospitals, if the general officer were to know his hospitals only by plan, if the student who has completed his studies were to bring away with him from the university no knowledge of physiology or anatomy, if the laughing girl were to enter into the married state without ever having heard of a mother's duties, if the governess can do nothing but descant on silly gentilities to her chlorotic pupils, and if the pedantic usher, enveloped in a mist of phrases, elegancies and verbiage, were unable to perceive how numbers of hopeful boys entrusted to his care fall victims to the most enervating vices, how unfit for their respective spheres these persons would be. Indeed, I should like to know if there is any condition in life, where some medical knowledge and some care for our own and our neighbour's health are not necessary, or if it is ridiculous or degrading, beyond the mere rude routine of

our actual business, to devote some time to the finer, but often not less important, study of the structure and modes of preservation of the human body.

Of course I do not mean to say that the works of Frank, or Howard, or Fritz, or Haller, or Levret, or Whytt, are for such persons as these, and I should commit a most egregious blunder were I to recommend a total reformation in the plan of education to those who have made it their special study. But, jesting apart, for all these there are studies of general utility, springs to which all may resort with profit, for they flow only to supply the wants of all the conditions of life.

Oh! that in the following pages I were so fortunate as to be able to contribute something to the happiness of mankind, if they would listen to the voice of a warm friend of his fellow creatures, as if it were the voice of a friend! In a few years, nay, days, and we have reached the termination of our earthly life; would that I could now and then prolong it were it but for a few hours, would that I could improve it were it only in trivial things.!

THE BITE OF MAD DOGS.

THE disease that results from the bite of rabid animals, most frequently of mad dogs, is of such an extraordinary and terrible character, that we are struck with horror on beholding a patient affected by it, and the mere description of his sufferings causes us to shudder. Among a thousand persons affected by real hydrophobia, often not one is saved. The most vigorous constitution, the best physician, the most recondite remedies, and the most implicit obedience of the patient and his friends, are in most cases all of no avail; in the possession of perfect consciousness, the unfortunate being is usually, amid the most fearful symptoms, hurried off in a few days to an untimely end.

The patient feels an accession of pain in the bitten part, which may either be perfectly healed or still an open wound, it becomes surrounded by a blue border; a creeping sensation proceeds from it up to the throat, which feels as if contracted. The patient has pain in the head and stomach, and sometimes bilious vomiting. His sleep is disturbed by frightful dreams, he becomes restless, the hands, feet and tip of the nose grow cold, the features distorted. He thinks he sees fiery sparks dancing before his eyes. He feels neither hunger nor usually thirst, the tongue is moist but covered with viscid mucus, stools and urine suppressed, or he passes them of natural colour, but with pain. The pulse is weak and jerking, but not inflammatory. He cannot bear the approach of any liquid without trembling all over, with wild, anxious, sad expression. In like manner he cannot bear anything glittering, bright or white, anything approached suddenly towards him, loud talking, a draught of air,

&c. In the lucid intervals he speaks rationally, but in a more timid, rapid and nervous manner than usual; a hacking cough, sometimes combined with hiccough, interrupts his speech. His face becomes always paler and more distorted, the anxiety that dominates over all his actions is expressed also by the cold clammy sweat on his face and hands, his eyes are tearful and the pupils dilated. He tosses convulsively about in his bed. He seeks to run away. At length he hides his face, becomes quieter and expires.

The *post mortem* examination exhibits usually nothing abnormal*. The extreme tension and excessive irritability of the nervous system and the sense of self-preservation shewn in the anxious dread of approaching dissolution, these are the sole characteristics of this fearful disease.

I shall not here enter into a description of the countless remedies that have been proposed for it; their enormous quantity is of itself, to a certain extent, a proof that no sure mode of cure is yet known, otherwise that would be adhered to. I shall merely endeavour to remove some erroneous notions prevalent on the subject, and thus, if possible, endeavour to render this disease of less frequent occurrence.

The *first* and most prejudicial of these, is the great confidence reposed in certain remedies said to be infallible, among which I allude chiefly to internal remedies. Some persons are bitten by a dog supposed to be mad. They use with all speed the renowned specific, and none of them takes the hydrophobia; all recover from their wounds without any serious consequences following; and in all the country round nothing is talked of but the wondrous curative virtues of, it may be, the may-worm electuary,† or whatever else these patients used. It follows, of course, that in similar cases occurring in this district nothing more will be done than to give the bitten individuals the may-worm electuary. One of these, however, dies of hydrophobia, but the vaunters of the nostrum can furnish reasons for its inutility in this case, at all events, this single unfortunate case is regarded as the exception, against the many successful ones. Should it happen a third time that some one or other in the neighbourhood is inoculated with the poison of a mad dog, so that in the course of nature he must be affected by the hydrophobia, the electuary is at once confidently administered to the unfortunate individual, and it is only by the sad termination of this case that the remedy falls into disrepute.

Had the first cases of reported success been more carefully inves-

* [In two instances, a medical friend of ours has made very thorough and careful dissections of dogs which had died of hydrophobia, but in neither case could any morbid changes be discovered which would in any way account for death. In one of these examples portions of the brain, spinal-cord and nervous apparatus, were submitted to microscopic examinations, but without throwing any new light upon the subject.]—*Am. P.*

† [A nostrum for the hydrophobia purchased at an extravagant price by the Prussian Government.]

tigated, it would have been found that these first patients had received no true virus of rabies into their wounds, and that consequently the electuary had no difficulty in curing, as there was nothing to cure. The subsequent unfortunate cases might then have been prevented, had not such implicit confidence been placed in this internal remedy, but the far more trustworthy external preventive remedies been employed.

But what are the best external preventive remedies, and how can we confidently pronounce on the madness of an animal? These questions shall be answered farther on.

Thus much is certain, that the commencement of the malady is at first merely local. The poisonous saliva of the animal lies at first inactive in the bitten wound. The wound heals, and not the slightest inconvenience is experienced, until, after a longer or shorter period, symptoms of irritation of the nervous system, and along with them the fatal hydrophobia make their appearance. Could we at first extract the poisonous saliva from the wound as completely as we can a splinter or a bullet, it would be impossible that rabies could result from such a bite. But if it be already present, we know *no* remedy whereby it may be certainly cured. Hence all trusting to such specifics is unsafe and injurious if we have not already frequently tested their efficacy on fully developed hydrophobia.

The second error which may prove injurious, is the belief, that a dog has communicated the poison by its bite if he die within a few days of rabies, and has not communicated it if he continue alive; consequently that a dog that soon dies with the symptoms of this disease, which fear magnifies excessively, was mad, but that one that recovers could not have been mad. In the former case (and who can deny it, as we know as yet so little of the maladies of the domestic animals) it might have been quite a different disease that the dog had which inflicted the bites, and the remedies employed for these bites thus falsely acquire a reputation as specifics for hydrophobia. In the latter case, in spite of all the danger, none is apprehended; the only useful remedies for the parts infected by the virus are neglected, and the fatal disease is in all certainty allowed to break out.

We find in the records of medicine many instances* in which the severe bite of a dog that afterwards died with all the signs of rabies, infected some persons but not others, without the latter employing anything, and on the other hand there are undeniable instances shewing that dogs of whose bite persons have died of hydrophobia have remained alive.

To refer to but one case of the latter sort, I may mention that Martin Lister, in the 13th vol. of the *Philosophical Transactions*,

* Vaughn saw from twenty to thirty persons bitten by a mad dog, of whom only one among them, a boy, died of hydrophobia, the rest escaping unaffected.

relates the case of a robust young man, who, six weeks after being bitten, became affected by hydrophobia, of which he died fourteen days thereafter. At the same time, the same dog bit a little dog, which died the day following of rabies; but the large dog itself recovered, and was quite well eight weeks after it had been mad.

A similar instance of a rabid dog which recovered, some children, at the risk of their lives, diligently washing its wounds, is to be found in the 20th volume of this instructive collection, where we also meet with the cases of two young men, related by Dr. Kennedy, *who recovered from the hydrophobia without employing any means*. Had any of the renowned specifics been used in these cases, would not the cure have been infallibly ascribed to it? Can a medicine be extolled as infallible for this disease, or even as very useful, that has not cured at least ten cases of developed hydrophobia?—Where is there such a medicine?*

The third error is the delusion entertained, even by physicians, that the virus of mad dogs can only cause infection when introduced into the wound caused by a bite, or some other open wound.

As a proof of the incorrectness of this, cases are not rare where mad dogs have merely licked the external skin, and yet have communicated the disease. Two boys, as we learn from De la Prime, in the 20th vol. of the *Philosophical Transactions*, frequently cleaned with their hands the wounds of a dog that had been bitten by a mad dog; many months, afterwards, *without ever having been wounded*, they were both attacked simultaneously by hydrophobia, which lasted a week, when the eldest recovered, and said timidly to his father, "I am well." The same happened to the other. They remained well three or four days, then again had violent attacks of hydrophobia for a week, and thereafter recovered without relapsing.†

* Unless it be, perhaps, the root of belladonna. Might not a very strong extract of black henbane prepared *without heat*, administered in sufficient quantity in the form of pills, be able to cure this disease? A number of *theoretic* reasons lead us to have strong hopes that it might. But the extract must be so strong that two grains of it are sufficient to cause in a healthy individual, troublesome symptoms, stupefaction, &c.

† [These are probably cases of *sympathetic hydrophobia*. The painful mental impression which continued to prey upon their imaginations for so long a period, finally induced psychological phenomena, viz., symptoms of the very malady which they had so much dreaded. An instance of this kind occurred in our own knowledge, several years since, in the person of a nervous girl of 16 years. She had been bitten about a year previously by a dog, which was at the time supposed to be rabid, and which was immediately killed. The idea that she should have the hydrophobia continued to torment her, and to wear upon her health and spirits, until, finally, all the symptoms of hydrophobia made their appearance. These symptoms continued at intervals for two days, when the dread of water, the convulsive motions, the anxious and wild expression, &c., disappeared, leaving only a general soreness throughout the body, and a sense of debility.

We fully believe that there is such a disease as genuine hydrophobia, from the absorption into the system of the virus of rabid dogs; yet, it is quite probable that cases not unfrequently occur, and terminate fatally, in which there has been *no absorption of the virus*, but simply a painful and intense action upon the imagination,

Likewise in the 23d vol., we find the history of two servants, who frequently inserted their fingers into the throat of a dog (that had been bitten by another rabid dog, and did not die for three weeks afterwards), in order to feel if there was anything the matter with it. Both were affected by hydrophobia without having been wounded; the stronger of the two recovered without using any medicine, but the younger died of hydrophobia on the third day.

I myself knew a boy whose face was licked by a dog that was going mad, and who died of hydrophobia.*

It is, in general, the safest plan to consider the bite of an unirritated dog as that of a mad dog, and to treat it accordingly. This is the surest way to guard against hydrophobia.

The wound should be immediately washed out with water in which a quantity of potash has been mixed, and this should be repeated frequently, and until the surgeon arrives, who should bring with him a piece of caustic potash, and touch the open wound therewith until a slough the thickness of the back of a knife is formed, whilst the moisture that exudes should be removed by blotting-paper. The pain is not very severe, the slough falls off in a few days and the clean wound soon heals. If this is done first of all and very quickly, we may feel quite at ease, and do all in our power to comfort and console the patient,† and tranquilize his circulation. A moderate blood-letting in plethoric individuals, or a glass of wine given to persons of an opposite constitution, will suffice for this purpose. If this frightful disease can by any means be prevented, it is by such means; but *not by any internal medicine* hitherto known.

The part of the skin which, although not broken, may have been wetted by the saliva of a dog which has become suspicious from having bitten others, must be diligently rubbed with potash, and washed continually for an hour with the solution of the alkali. If a blister be afterwards applied to the spot, then all danger will be more than warded off.

No dog should be trusted that bites people unirritated, and has a gloomy wild expression. It is far better to kill too many of these often useless beasts, than to allow one actually rabid to roam at large; man's life is too precious, and should be held paramount to every other consideration. Merely to shut up for a few days dogs bitten by a mad one, is always dangerous, as examples are not

thus inducing psychological phenomena, somewhat analogous to those produced by the mesmeric processes. It would not be difficult for a mesmerizer, or psychologist, to induce in his subject a temporary condition closely simulating hydrophobia.]

—*Am. P.*

* Cœlius Aurelianus, Palmarious, Van Hilden, Callissen, Ochelius, Gruner, and Morands have recorded similar cases.

† A clergyman was affected by chronic hydrophobia merely from imagining that a dog that had bitten him was mad. He would have died had not a physician pointed out to him the erroneous nature of his idea. He soon recovered after the physician had succeeded in convincing him, and without taking any medicine.

wanting where they only became mad several weeks after being bitten. They must either be killed, or be kept in safe custody for at least four weeks, before they are trusted; the former must absolutely be done in case the dog that inflicted the bite was very suspicious.

A dog may be suspected of communicating rabies when it ceases to be friendly, will scarcely wag its tail on being patted by those it likes best, appears very tired and lazy, is cross and dejected, dreads the light, and creeps into dark corners, where it lies down without sleeping. It never barks, not even when there is the greatest cause for it doing so; it merely growls at anything approaching it suddenly, and springs out at it. The eyes are dim, the tail and ears hang down. At this stage the bite commences to be dangerous.

This state lasts but half a day, or a whole day, and then the second stage of rabies breaks out. The animal no longer knows its own master, eats and drinks no more, becomes restless, growls with a hoarse whine, without ever barking, goes about threateningly with dependent head, red watery eyes, having a sad expression and directed towards the ground. It involuntarily moves the lower jaw in a mumbling manner; its leaden-coloured tongue, dripping with saliva, hangs out of the mouth; the tail is stuck betwixt the legs; the hairs of the whole body stand out in a disorderly manner. It tries to run away, snaps at every thing before it, and runs along, irrespective of the road, without apparent object, straight and crooked, at a quick, usually unsteady pace. Other dogs run away from it.

THE VISITOR OF THE SICK.

If it be not from want of something better to do, or from mere curiosity, which, as the story goes, is among the attributes of the fair sex—if, in a word, it be not from some important object that Mrs. X visits Mrs. Z in her serious febrile disease, if she does it out of Christian, sisterly, or cousinly affection and friendship, I fear I should be denounced as a bad man were I in this last case to forbid such visits. And yet it must be done; I must forbid them, but I beg to be heard before being condemned.

Malignant fevers that spread among the people have usually, at all events often, a contagious character, notwithstanding that some of my colleagues have endeavoured, most learnedly, to prove the contrary. It is safer to consider them so, as it is in all cases safer to believe in a little too much hell than too little, in order that we may take greater precautions to preserve ourselves from it, whether it be a reality or only a sort of wood-cut *in rerum natura*. It is likewise quite praiseworthy to make our children believe that the brook that flows by is somewhat deeper and more fearful than it actually is.

The very probable contagious nature of prevalent fevers being conceded, it must be highly criminal, at least very imprudent, for the healthy lady to sit beside her deadly-sick gossip for hours at a time without the slightest necessity.

"She would be very much offended if I did not visit her; what would the relations say to my impoliteness? I am told she longed to see me—if she should die without me seeing her once more, I should never forgive myself!" Such excuses might probably be considered as valid by a gallant man; but they have no weight with me, for I am not a gallant man. Admitting she had a real affectionate desire to see her friend once more, this good intention must remain unfulfilled, just as many good things must remain undone because they cannot be done, or at least not without great injury or palpable danger.

If you wish to save your friend from drowning you must be able to swim; if you cannot, do not jump into the water after him—for any sake don't! but run for assistance, and if he is drowned by the time assistance arrives, then help to drag the water for him; help with all your might to bring him back to life, or if all is of no avail, follow his body to the grave. There are, in like manner, cases where you can do nothing but pray when your neighbour is being burnt to death in the fourth story, and your heart is bleeding for him.

Your sick friend, most probably, knows you no longer in her delirium; but supposing she would know you, you may, when she recovers, make up in many ways for this neglected service of love, as such unnecessary and dangerous visits to the sick are commonly called. (Would that we poor creatures began to testify our friendship more in deed and in truth than in empty compliments and visits; there is already enough of the empty and windy in this world of ours!)

No one requires fewer persons about him than a dangerously sick person, himself nearly related to death, which slumbers in solitude beneath grave-mounds, as we learn from friend Hain.

Who does the patient who is seriously ill prefer having near him? none but the necessary person, at the most a father, a mother or a spouse, but best of all the sick-nurse and the doctor (two persons ordained by God and placed, like Uriah in the battle, in the thickest of the fight—forlorn hopes, quite close to the advancing enemy, without any hours of relief from their irksome guard—two very much misunderstood beings, who sacrifice themselves at hard-earned wages for the public weal, and, in order to obtain a civic crown, brave the life-destroying, poisoned atmosphere, deafened by the cries of agony and the groans of death).

Let patients affected with contagious fevers be left to these two, the only necessary, the only useful individuals, and to a beneficent God; they alone can attend to them properly, from their hands

must they expect all the good that we can wish for them, *life and health*.

The anxious lady that visits her sick friend can do her no manner of good ; all she can do will be to shew her a pocket-handkerchief which she has moistened with her sympathizing tears, irritate her morbid nerves with chattering, help to spoil the air of the close-sick room with her breath, increase the noise that is often so hurtful to patients, disarrange the good order by her officious interference, give well-meant but erroneous advice, and, what is of still greater consequence, carry back the disease with her into her own house.

Let it not be alleged that the sick nurse and the doctor must run the same risk if the doctrine of contagiousness be true. They do so, no doubt, to a certain degree, as the death of many doctors and nurses shew. But they do not do so much as Madam Gossip, and this is the reason :

The Creator of mankind has so ordained that *habit* shall be a protector against many dangers. Thus the chimney-sweeper gradually accustoms himself to the smoke from wood, which would choke any one else, and he can, if it be not too intense, easily exist in it. The glass-blower, from gradual custom, withstands the most intense heat of his furnace, and goes much closer to it than other persons can. The Greenlander, a man like ourselves, laughs and jokes in a degree of cold that would freeze to death those unused to it. The courier who travels many hundred miles in a few days, and the runner who makes a day's journey in a few hours ; the fisherman who spends much of his life in the water without taking cold, and the Scotch miner who lives to the age of a hundred years in his unhealthy occupation, are all proofs of this.

In like manner, some stout-hearted men can gradually accustom themselves to the exhalations of the most infectious diseases, and their system, in course of time, becomes quite insensible to them. There are some layers out of dead bodies in large cities who attain a great age, and have breathed the exhalations from thousands of corpses that have died of infectious diseases. There have also been grave-diggers who in the time of a pestilence have buried the last inhabitant of their district.

But it is only cautious nurses and physicians that can rejoice in this immunity from infection ; they must accustom themselves to it very gradually, continue to habituate themselves and employ various precautions in order not to be destroyed by the murderous exhalation.

A casual visitor cannot pretend to such advantages, she must be totally unused to the insidious miasm, and in all probability she runs the greatest risk to her life. She may be happy if her imprudence does not make orphans of her children, or even cause the death of all of them, without any fault of theirs.

PROTECTION AGAINST INFECTION IN EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

For every kind of poisonous exhalation there is in all probability a particular antidote, only we do not always know enough about the latter. It is well known that the air of our atmosphere contains two-thirds of a gas that is immediately fatal to man and beast, and extinguishes flame. Mixed up along with it is its peculiar corrective; it contains about one-third of vital air, whereby its poisonous properties are destroyed; and in that state only does it constitute atmospheric air, wherein all creatures can live, grow and develop themselves.

The suffocating and flame-extinguishing exhalations in cellars in which a quantity of yeast or beer has fermented, is soon removed by throwing in fresh slacked lime.

The vapour developed in manufactories where much quicksilver is employed, together with a high temperature, is very prejudicial to health; but we can in a great measure protect ourselves against it by placing all about open vessels containing fresh liver of sulphur.

To chemistry we are indebted for all these protective means against poisonous vapours, after we had discovered, by means of chemistry, the exact nature of these exhalations.

But it is quite another thing with the contagious exhalations from dangerous fevers and infectious diseases. They are so subtle that chemistry has never yet been able to subject them to analysis, and consequently has failed to furnish an antidote for them. Most of them are not catching at the distance of a few paces in the open air, not even the plague of the East; but in close chambers these vapours exist in a concentrated form and then become injurious, dangerous, fatal, at a considerable distance from the patient.

Now as we know of no specific antidotes for the several kinds of contagious matters, we must content ourselves with general prophylactic means. Some of these means are sometimes in the power of the patient, but most of them are solely available by the nurse, the physician, and the clergyman, who visit the sick.

As regards the former of these, the patient, if not too weak, may change his room and his bed every day, and the room he is to occupy may, before he comes into it in the morning, be well aired by opening the doors and all the windows. If he have curtains to his bed he may draw them to, and let the fresh air circulate once more through his room, before the physician or clergyman comes to visit him.

The hospitals used by an army in a campaign, which are often established in churches, granaries, or airy sheds, are for that reason much less liable to propagate contagion, and also much more beneficial for the patient than the stationary hospitals, which are often built too close, low, and angular. In the latter, the nurses, physicians,

and clergymen often run great risks. And what risks do they not constantly run in the half underground damp dwellings of the lowest class of the people, in the dirty cellars of back courts and narrow lanes that the sun's reviving rays never shine in, and the pure morning air never reaches, stuffed full with a crowd of pauper families, where pale care, and whining hunger seem forever to have established their desolating throne!

During the prevalence of contagious diseases, the poisonous qualities of the vitiated air are concentrated in such places, so that the odour of the pest is plainly perceptible, and every time the door is open, a blast of death and desolation escapes. These are the places fraught with greatest danger to physician and clergyman. Is there any mode whereby they can effectually protect their lungs from the Stygian exhalation, when the crying misery on all sides appeals to them, shocks them, and makes them forgetful of self? And yet they must try to discover some preventive! How are they to do so?

I have said above, that we may gradually accustom ourselves to the most poisonous exhalations, and remain pretty well in the midst of them.

But, as is the case with accustoming ourselves to every thing, *the advance from one extreme to the other must be made with the utmost caution and by very small degrees*, so it is especially with this.

We become gradually accustomed to the most unwholesome prison cells, and the prisoners themselves with their sighs over the inhuman injustice of their lot, often, by their breathing and the exhalations from their bodies, gradually bring the few cubic feet of their atmosphere into a state of such pestilential malignity, that strangers are not unfrequently struck down by the most dangerous typhoid fevers, or even have suddenly died by venturing near them, whilst the prisoners themselves, having been gradually accustomed to the atmosphere, enjoy a tolerable health.

In like manner we find that physicians who see patients labouring under malignant fevers rarely and only occasionally, and clergymen whose vocation only requires them to pay a visit now and then, are much more frequently infected than those who visit many such cases in a day.

From these facts naturally proceeds the first condition for those who visit such sick-beds for the first time, "that they should in the commencement rather see their patients more frequently, but each time stay behind them as short a time as possible, keep as far away as possible from the bed or chamber utensil, and especially that they should take care that the sick room be thoroughly aired before their visit."

After these preliminary steps have been taken with proper caution

and due care, we may then, by degrees, remain somewhat longer, especially beside patients with the slighter form of the disease, and of cleanly habits, we may also approach them sufficiently close to be able to feel their pulse and see their tongue, taking the precaution when so near them, to refrain from breathing. All this can be done without any appearance of affectation, anxiety, or constraint.

I have observed that it is usually the *most compassionate, young* physicians, who, in epidemics of this sort, are soonest carried off, when they neglect this insufficiently known precaution, perhaps from excessive philanthropy and anxiety about their patients; that on the other hand, the hard hearted sort of every-day doctors who love to make a sensation by the large number of patients they visit daily, and who love to measure the greatness of their medical skill by the agility of their limbs and their rapidity, most certainly escape infection. But there is a wise middle path (which young clergymen who visit the sick are counselled to adopt), whereby they may unite the most sensitive and warmest philanthropy with immunity to their own precious health.

The consideration "that a precipitate self-sacrifice may do them harm but cannot benefit the patient, and that it is better to spare one's life for the preservation of many, than to hazard it in order to gratify a few," will make the above first precaution acceptable, viz.—*by very gradually approaching and accustoming ourselves to the inflammatory material of the contagion, to blunt by degrees our nerves to the impression of the miasm (morbid exhalation) otherwise so easily communicable.* We must not neglect to impress the same precautionary measures on the attendants of the sick person.

The second precaution is, "that we should, when visiting the sick, endeavour to maintain our mind and body in a good equilibrium." This is as much as to say, that during this occupation we must not permit ourselves to be acted on by debilitating emotions; excesses in venery, in anger, grief and care, as also over-exertion of the mind of all sorts, are great promoters of infection.

Hence to attend either as physician or clergyman a dear friend sick of the prevalent fever is a very dangerous occupation, as I have learnt from dear-bought experience.

We should endeavour, moreover, to preserve as much as possible our usual mode of living, and whilst our strength is still good we should not forget to take food and drink in the usual manner, and duly apportioned to the amount of hunger and thirst we may have. Unusual abstinence or excess in eating and drinking should be carefully avoided.

But in this respect no absolute dietetic rules can be laid down. It has been said that one should not visit patients when one's stomach is empty, but this is equally erroneous as if it were to be said, one should visit them with an empty stomach. One who, like myself,

is never used to eat anything in the forenoon, would derange his digestion, and render himself more susceptible of infection were he, following the old maxim, to eat something for which he had no appetite and visit his patients in this state; and *vice versa*.

On such occasions we should attend more than ordinarily to our desires for particular articles of diet, and procure, if possible, that for which we have most appetite, but then only eat as much as will satisfy us.

All over fatigue of the body, chills and night-watchings should be avoided.

Every physician who has previously been engaged in practice, every clergyman and nurse, will of course have learned to get over the unnecessary repugnance he may feel.

Thus we become gradually habituated to the occupation of tending patients suffering from malignant fevers, which is fraught with so much danger, and cannot be compensated by any amount of pecuniary remuneration, until at length it becomes almost as difficult to be infected as to get the small-pox twice. If under all these circumstances we retain our courage, sympathizing compassionate feelings, and a clear head, we become persons of great importance in the state, not to be recompensed by the favour of princes, but conscious of our lofty destiny, and rising superior to ourselves, we dedicate ourselves to the welfare of the very lowest as well as the highest among the people, we become, as it were, angels of God on earth.

Should the medical man experience in himself some commencing signs of the disease, he should immediately leave off visiting the patient, and if he have not committed any dietetic or regiminal error, I would recommend, notwithstanding I have endeavoured in this book to avoid anything like medicinal prescriptions, the employment of a domestic remedy, so to speak, empirically.

In such cases I have taken a drachm of cinchona bark in wine every three quarters of an hour, until all danger of infection (whatever kind of epidemic fever the disease might be) was completely over.

I can recommend this from my own experience, but am far from insisting upon the performance of this innocuous and powerful precaution by those who are of a different opinion. My reasons would be satisfactory if I could adduce them in this place.

But as it is not enough to protect ourselves from infection, but also necessary not to allow others to come in the way of danger through us, those engaged about such patients should certainly not approach others too nearly until they have changed the clothes they had on when beside the patients for others, and the former should be hung up in an airy place where no one should go near them, until we again need them to visit our patients. Next to the sick-room,

infection takes place most easily by means of such clothes, although the person who visits the patient may not have undergone any infection.

A highly respectable and orderly individual, who for years had never walked anywhere, but only to his office at the fixed hours, had a female attendant with whom he was on very friendly terms, an old good-natured person, who, without his knowledge, employed all her leisure hours in making herself useful to a poor family living about a hundred yards from his house, who were lying sick of a putrid fever, the prominent character of which was a malignant typhoid fever. For a fortnight all went on well; but about this time the gentleman received some intelligence of a very annoying and depressing character, and in a few days, although to my certain knowledge he had seen no one affected with such a disease, he got, in all probability, from the clothes of his attendant, who was often very close to him, exactly the same kind of malignant fever, only much more malignant. I visited him as a friend with unreserved sympathy, as I ought, and I fell sick of the same fever, although I had been already very much accustomed to infection.

This case, together with many other similar ones, taught me that clothes carry far and wide the contagious matter of such fevers, and that depressing mental emotions render persons susceptible to the miasm, even such as are already used to its influence.

It would appear that the lawyer who draws up a will, the notary and witnesses would, on account of not being habituated to such impressions, run much greater risk of being infected in these cases. I do not deny it; but for them there are modes of escape which are not so accessible to the other persons of whom we have spoken.

Where there is nothing, the sovereign has lost his rights, there is no will to be made. But when wealthy persons wish to make their last will and testament on their sick bed, there are two circumstances in favour of the lawyer and his assistants. As in the formalities of a legal testament, the patient's bed often cannot remain in its usual situation, and as, moreover, it is essential for such a testament that the testator should be in full possession of his intellectual faculties, it follows that for those patients *who are not absolutely poor*, another room and another bed may be got ready, thoroughly aired and free from infectious atmosphere. They do not need to remove thither until all this has been properly performed a short time before.

The weakness of the intellect in such patients generally keeps pace with their corporeal weakness, and a patient who possesses sufficient strength of intellect to make his will would not allege that he is too weak to be removed to another bed and room.

How little chance there is of the legal officials catching the infection under these circumstances (provided they take moderate care not to approach the patient nearer than necessary), I need not dwell upon.

I should mention that after one has once accustomed himself to any particular kind of miasm, for example, the bloody flux, the nerves remain for a considerable time, often for years, to some degree insensible to the same kind of disease, even though during all that time we may have had no opportunity of seeing patients affected with that disease, and thus, as it were, of keeping the nerves actively engaged in keeping up this state of specific unsusceptibility. It gradually goes off, but more slowly than one would suppose. Hence with moderate precaution a nurse, physician, or a clergyman, may attend dysenteric patients this year if they have had to do with similar patients several years previously. But the safest plan is to employ even in this case a little blameless precaution.

But as the superstitious amulets and charms of our ancestors' times did harm, inasmuch as full credit was given to their medicinal virtues, and better remedies were consequently neglected, so, for like reasons, the fumigations of the sick room with the vapour of vinegar, juniper-berries and the like, is inadvisable, although the majority of my colleagues highly recommend it, and assert that the most infectious miasms of all kinds have thereby been overpowered and driven away, and thus the air purified.

Being convinced of the contrary, I must directly contradict them, and rather draw upon myself their disfavour than neglect an opportunity of rendering a service to my fellow-creatures. But as the spoiled (phlogisticated, foul, fixed, &c.,) air can never be restored to purity or turned into vital air by means of these fumes, and as there is not a shadow of a proof that the subtle contagious exhalations, whose essential nature is quite unknown to us and not perceptible to our senses, can be weakened, neutralized, or in any other manner rendered innocuous by these fumes, it would be foolish, I would almost say unjustifiable, by recommending such fumigations for the supposed purification of the air, to encourage ordinary people in their natural indolence and indisposition to renew the air of their apartments, and thereby expose every different person who comes in contact with them to a danger to his life, which shall be all the more obvious and great the more confident he has been made by the futile representation that, without driving away the disease-spreading miasm by means of repeated draughts of air, the pestilential atmosphere of the sick room has been converted into pure healthy air by means of simple fumigations with vinegar and juniper-berries. That is just like the old superstition of hanging an eagle-stone at the hip of the woman in labour, at the very moment when all hopes of saving her, even by the forceps, are over.

When a physician or clergyman enters an unfumigated chamber, he can at once tell by his sense of smell whether his needful order to air the room has been obeyed or not. All sick people make a disagreeable smell about them. Therefore, the freedom from smell

of a chamber is the best proof that it has previously been aired, but if fumigations have been had recourse to, the latter becomes doubtful and suspicious. Neither the physician nor the clergyman, neither the sick-nurse nor the patient, require perfumes when they have to think and speak seriously concerning a matter of life and death. They should never be used !

IN OLD-WOMEN'S PHILOSOPHY THERE IS SOMETHING GOOD, IF WE ONLY KNOW WHERE TO FIND IT.

I hope by this section, at all events by the title of it, to have made my peace for all future times with that, please Heaven, small portion of my fair readers who suspect me of heresy from the faith of our grandmothers, and I should be sorry to fall out with these respectable old people, certainly I should.

So let us hasten from the preface to the main point of our matter. I once lived in a place where the midwife, who was there called emphatically the *wise woman*, gave to all newly confined (peasant) women a good large quantity of brandy. Even I had to submit to this inevitable fate, and I did it without a murmur. For who dare say a word against the Parcæ, especially against the third and last of them ?

I was assured that this fiery spirit did great good in many cases. With folded hands I held my peace, as was reasonable, and looked on, and I found that in this locality there were actually many puerperal women who, when left to themselves, had serious symptoms arising from weakness or excessive irritability of the nervous system, accompanied by impurities of the stomach and bowels, or by plethora—in these the brandy did real service, but these were exactly the cases in which we find opium (a very analogous thing) of use.

Here, then, the old woman's philosophy was really right for once. But what became of the other cases in which the brandy was poured into the poor creatures in a useless and hurtful manner ? I shall say nothing about that, because at the present time the third fate is still much too intractable, and has even become fearful to the sons of Æsculapius.

“If you are a woman, tie a man's stocking round your swollen neck, and it will subside ; say, I said it.” This good counsel of the old dame is true in so far as slightly swollen cervical glands in lymphatic constitutions only require a warm covering in order to dissipate the swelling, more especially a covering which (as will readily be done by a woollen cloth on the tender skin of a lady's neck) shall cause friction and produce irritation and redness. Thus far the old woman's philosophy is again correct. But why a dirty stocking ? might we not use flannel—and how ! in true inflammations of the throat what good will a dry, woollen, heating covering do !—Here

the old witch holds her tongue, and so do I, for it is advisable to do so in her presence.

Swollen cervical glands are cured by the lucky hand of some wise woman or midwife, who must, each each time the moon is on the wane, in silence press thrice upon the swollen glands with her thumb, in a crucial manner. Superstition places much confidence in this semi-magical remedy, which sometimes is actually of great service. Thus much is certain, that glandular swellings in middle-aged individuals of lymphatic constitutions who have not much general scrofulous disposition, not unfrequently disappear rapidly by rubbing and moderate pressure. Thereby is produced an increased circulation of the blood and a greater activity of the lymphatic vessels, and even an incipient inflammation, whereby the swelling is removed. In so far the vaunted petticoat wisdom is right.

But what the period of the wane of the moon has to do with the matter, we, who belong to the inferior class of untranscendental doctors, are too dull to perceive, because, alas, we are not endowed with the super-subtle sixth or perhaps seventh sense; were it otherwise, we might see the great importance of the triple and crucial pressure, more especially if the excessively lucky precaution is observed of commencing and carrying out the operation from beginning to end *without speaking a word*, which, indeed, it were almost too much to expect from an ordinary woman.

THINGS THAT SPOIL THE AIR.

It cannot be indifferent to those of my readers who wish to enjoy a long and healthy life, whether the air of their rooms possess the necessary degree of purity or not.

There are many familiar things that render the air that we breathe more or less unsuitable for the maintenance of life, so my readers must listen to the warnings of a friend.

Flowers are an ornament to a room, and if we are content to deck one room with but *a few* of extreme beauty, and *very few*, on account of their perfume, it will not much signify; it is rather praiseworthy than blameworthy. The more we refresh our senses in an innocuous manner the more lively and easy does our power of thinking become, the more capable and disposed for business are we, and the delight of the sight and the smell in flowers, the pride of lovely nature, is especially of this character.

But an excess does harm in all things, so it does likewise here. A large bouquet of lilies, tuberous plants, love-flowers, centifolia, jasmine, lilac, and so forth, makes such a strong perfume in a small room that many sensitive persons have occasionally been made to faint by them. This does not depend so often on the antipathy of the nervous system to such odours as it does on the injurious pro-

perty of such strong-scented flowers of quickly spoiling the air and rendering it unfit for respiration. Other writers have already called attention to this fact, so that I need not dwell longer on it, and will content myself with having repeated the warning.

People who wish to be very genteel, love to burn in the evening more candles than are necessary; and if they are entertaining company, they light up chandeliers, sconces and all the other receptacles for candles they may possess, in order that the fashionably dressed ladies and gentlemen may see each other well. It is considered a capital holiday spectacle to see so many candles burning at once; it dazzles one's eyes so brilliantly that we scarcely know where we are; it also costs a good round sum.

But if we view all this display of candles in the proper light, we shall find that they spoil the air in a very ugly manner. Considering that they are only lighted for a number of guests who are to be well feasted, who, seated in close rows, pollute the atmosphere for each other by their breathing and exhalations, in one word, that they are only lighted for feasts and balls—considering this, I say, I know not what sort of complimentary speech I can make to my entertainer for purposely depriving me of the little bit of God's pure air, and giving me the very worst sort instead, in which an animal could with difficulty sustain life. Amid how many attacks of faintness will not yon lady express her thanks to him, after having worked away for hours at her toilette, preparing for the festivities, in the endeavour to diminish by one-third the capacity of her chest by means of a whalebone apparatus, until, drawn in so tightly as to look like a wasp, she could scarcely take in air enough to support life in a pure atmosphere! Relish it who may—I must say, for my part, that I have no wish to be regaled with so many candles in a room.

He who wishes to act wisely will not tarry in the room where he has dined, and where the vapour from the warm food has deteriorated the air, until it has been thoroughly aired.

It is very unwholesome to sleep in rooms where, as is often the case among the lower classes, there is a store of green fruit. A quantity of phlogiston that exhales from the fruit in the form of their odour soon approximates the pure atmospheric air to the condition of phlogistic and unhealthy air.

Also store-rooms of other kinds, where domestic articles and food from the animal and vegetable kingdoms are kept in quantity, such as oils, candles, lard, raw, boiled and roasted meat, pastry, &c., are not healthy places for people to dwell in. It should be observed, that everything that emits much smell, perceptibly vitiates the atmosphere.

In foul linen the excretions from the skin are present, and no rational person would submit to have them kept or washed in his room for similar reasons, but also for delicacy's sake.

No one who can avoid it should sleep in the room in which he

remains during the day. The beds part very gradually with the exhalation they have received from the sleeper during the night, and continue to vitiate all day long the air of the room, even though it had been thoroughly aired in the morning.

Six busy watchmakers do not spoil the air nearly so much as two workmen engaged in sawing wood. I would therefore advise that the workshops in manufactories, especially where much corporeal exercise is employed, should be built rather too high than too low, rather too airy than too close, and be they ever so cleanly and well situated, they should be frequently aired. It is incredible in how short a time in such cases the air of the room becomes vitiated and unfit for respiration. The miserable, sick aspect and the great mortality of the workmen in many manufactories renders further proof of my proposition superfluous.

Working with unclean wool, with oil-colours, or with things for which burning charcoal is employed, is for other reasons not innocuous.

But even though the air should not be altered in its composition, it may become hurtful in another way by the mixture of something extraneous. Such is especially *moisture*.

Reservoirs attached to chamber-stoves, wherein the water is kept hot for domestic use, are in this respect injurious. For this reason, also, workmen who are engaged in drying wet things in highly heated rooms, cabinet-makers, turners, potters, bookbinders, &c., are very liable to swellings and other affections proceeding from relaxation of the absorbents.

A person who from an idea of extreme convenience should, notwithstanding the vicinity of a water-closet, keep a night-chair in his sleeping apartment, should bear in mind that the disgusting exhalation from it spoils the air uncommonly, and renders the bed-chamber in which we pass a third of our life (if it be not very roomy) a very unwholesome place of abode. There are, however, many houses so ill-arranged as either to have no water-closet at all, or where it is at such a distance as not to be very accessible in the night.

If this be the case, and cannot be remedied, we should have a small closet constructed of stone in the corner of some public room near the bed-chamber, which has a good opening to the outside of the house, and a well fitting door to enter at. In this place we may, under such circumstances, place the night-chair, and have it carried out afterwards, without having to fear any vitiation of the air or bad smell.

We should not permit large, thickly-leaved trees to stand close to the windows of a house. In addition to their preventing the access of daylight and of the pure air, their exhalations in the evening and at night are not very favourable to health. Trees at a distance of from ten to twelve paces from the house admit the air much more readily, and cannot be sufficiently recommended, as well on account

of their beautiful appearance and their pleasant shade, as on account of the wholesomeness of their exhalations by day. If we have the choice we should have the windows of our bed-room to the east, where the view is quite free, uninterrupted by very close trees, and unpoisoned by the febrile exhalation from a marsh.

Poverty has brought many injurious habits into this world, one of the worst of which is that where persons in the lower ranks of life, especially women, sit over a vessel filled with red hot charcoal, in order thereby to save themselves the expense of a stove in winter. The closer the room is shut up in such circumstances, and the more the external air is excluded, the more dangerous and fatal is this habit, for the air inside will thereby soon become a stupifying poison.

We feel a pressive, stupifying headache, that seems to bore through both temples, at the same time we experience an inclination to vomit, which, however, is soon suppressed by a rapidly increasing comatose state, in which we sink helplessly to the ground, and generally die without convulsions.

When the person falls down the clothes are apt to catch fire from the burning charcoal, and, indeed, fires have often originated in this manner, which are all the more dangerous because it is only when they have fairly burst forth that they will be observed by strangers, seeing that the person who originates it is too stupified to be able to extinguish the first flames.

Not less dangerous to life is it to close the valve in the chimneys of stoves that are heated from within, as long as the stove continues full of glowing cinders. From motives of economy, people often like to retain heat in the room. An economy that is very ill-directed. The more glowing charcoal there is in the stove, and the tighter the valve is closed, the quicker is the air vitiated, just as it is by a brazier full of red hot charcoal standing free in the room, and there ensue accidents just as bad as those above described, and not unfrequently fatal.

The valves in the chimneys of stoves are solely intended to moderate the draught of air into the stove and the violence of the fire, or in the event of the soot in the chimney catching fire to prevent a destructive conflagration by entirely shutting the chimney. If this latter should happen, every sensible person will, as soon as he has shut the valve, at once open the doors and windows in order to remove the air of the room that has been deteriorated by the confined fire.

We should rather seek to save wood by using well constructed stoves, than, by stopping up every hole and cranny in the doors and windows, exclude every breath of air, as is done by many persons of slender and of moderate means. Such persons must be ignorant of the incalculable value of air, who paste up with paper every chink and hole, and even hang up cloths before their doors, and thus retain all the unwholesome exhalations from the pores of the skin and from

the lungs in their small rooms, so as to respire, instead of life and health, disease and death. I have seen melancholy examples of this nature, and I fear that my warning will have some difficulty in penetrating to the miserable cellars they have themselves selected.

Deathly pale and spiritless, they feel an unknown poison permeating all their blood-vessels, they feel their health gradually being undermined, just as the water that runs down from their windows rots the window-frames; cachexy, dropsical swellings and pulmonary consumptions carry them off after having seen their children die around them of low, wasting diseases, which they attribute principally to teething or bewitchment, or reduced by rickets to cripples. Where is the compassionate man who will teach them something better?

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE LATE WILLIAM P. ESREY, M. D.

BY SILAS S. BROOKS, M. D.

The subject of this memoir was the oldest son of Joseph Esrey, of Maple Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and was born at the residence of his father in the year 1818.

Very early in his childhood he manifested a desire to obtain knowledge, especially from books, with which he was wont to retire almost as soon as he could read; seeming to take the same delight in such a course as most other children do in active sport, and instead of appropriating his little means in the usual manner of children, would expend all he could get in the purchase of books. Yet he was social, lively, fond of company, would act his part in fun and frolic, and formed strong friendships with his associates during this period.

His early literary education was obtained at the public schools in the neighborhood, while the latter part was received at an academy in the vicinity, which was ably taught by the worthy pastor of the Presbyterian church in said township, the Rev. John M. Bear.

In the year 1841 he commenced the study of medicine with Walter Williamson, M. D., now Emeritus Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania.

There being no homœopathic medical college at that time, he attended lectures and graduated at the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia.

His first course of lectures was in the session of 1842-3; the next in the following winter; and in 1844 he graduated.

During these two sessions of Lectures it was the lot of the author to form his acquaintance and enjoy his friendship ; and he takes pleasure in testifying, that Dr. Esrey was a hard and successful student, and pleasant companion. Many hours were spent in each others, company, each rendering to the other that valuable assistance which is always in the power of fellow-students. They sympathized with each other in the anxiety which is usually experienced, as the time draws nigh for entering the "Green Box," and administered to one another in the attack of "fever" that is often suffered at this period. Frequently testing their knowledge by examinations on those points in which they feared a deficiency. And now, right well does the author remember the last time they "quizzed" each other ; which was the day previous to their examination by the faculty, for their degrees.

After graduation, their views of the right mode of practice led them in such different paths that the close intercourse was interrupted for a few years ; though they always entertained profound respect and friendship for each other.

Having received his degree, Dr. Esrey still remained with his preceptor, for the purpose of obtaining a more thorough knowledge of homœopathy ; until the next autumn, when he went to Norristown, and commenced business for himself.

Having resided there about a year, an invitation from Dr. Williamson brought him again to Philadelphia, as an assistant to Dr. W. Here he remained nearly a year, and then opened an office on his own account in this city.

After the reception of his medical degrees, he was obliged to struggle on unaided by pecuniary means from any source but that which accrued from his *practice* ; for though his father was abundantly able to assist him, he thought his son, like other young men, more likely to succeed when made to feel self-dependent. Here the parent acted wisely, for, to a young physician, *poverty* is generally one of the *elements* of success. This acts as a stimulus to exertion, causing him to work energetically and to some purpose ; a something which must be done to ensure success in a crowded city ; but a something which the affluent fondling is not likely to do.

This peculiar stimulus which the father made the son to feel had the desired effect, though it is most probable that the early fondness of Dr. Esrey for knowledge, and the zeal manifested in acquiring his

profession, with the industrious and persevering habits as the father had taken care to establish in his son, would have carried him on successfully without this particular element. His sister says of him that she never knew him to fail in anything he undertook.

And we see that he *did work*, for he so gained the confidence of his preceptor and patients, that when he parted from Dr. Williamson, many of the patients were disposed to follow Dr. Esrey, and his preceptor encouraged them to do so. Of these he took so good care that through their influence more were soon added to their number. Some who had known him from childhood were among his first patients, and most, if not all his early patients continued with him as long as he practiced. He was in practice here about eight years, and during the last three years of that time, was very actively engaged, doing as much business as he desired, and more than his physical system justified. Indeed his success in practice was far greater than is usual in so large a city; in the short period of time allotted to his course.

He not only worked faithfully and diligently for his patients, but took time from his proper hours of rest, for continuing his literary as well as medical studies. The midnight lamps witnessed him in translating several medical works from the German into the English, and compiling others for the benefit of his fellow practitioners.

Some of these have received a place among our standard works. Among them may be mentioned the "Repertory to the Materia Medica of American Provings," a work on "Anatomy and Physiology," a translation from the German of "Caspari's Homœopathic Domestic Physician," and several smaller works and articles connected with medicine.

Here the author would take the opportunity to express his full approbation of such a course, or such a manner of spending the unemployed time of a young physician. How infinitely better than passing it in social company, seeking favor with this or that individual of influence to obtain aid in securing practice; running after the petty public offices with the vain hope that their occupancy will bring remunerative business; or resorting to the many other "clap-trap" modes of seeking employment.

Let every young physician attend closely to the patients he may have, and diligently strive to maintain his own dignity and that of his profession, by ardently pursuing those studies which will enhance

his qualifications to do them good; then he may rest assured, that in due time they will see that his services are indispensable to them; and will necessarily seek him.

Dr. Esrey was fully persuaded, that his literary labors after graduation were of great use in securing his business as a practitioner.

Though he attended to the ordinary minor *surgical* practice that came in his way, he appeared to take most pleasure in the *medical* part of his profession. His talents as well as acquirements were particularly adapted for success in this department. For with a sympathizing heart which impelled him promptly to seek the bedside of a fellow creature who desired his presence, he carried an attentive ear, a calm, dignified, collected and confident manner, that seemed to be quickly communicated to his patient and those around; so that confusion, fear and anguish were speedily dethroned, and quiet hope reigned in their stead. These effects have been repeatedly observed by the author when in consultation with the Doctor, in serious and trying cases. He generally asked his patients but few questions, which were strictly to the purpose.

As a citizen, he led a rather private life, seldom meddling with public affairs; though he kept himself pretty well informed upon the general passing events of the world; his patients and their wants had more charms for him.

As a friend it may be said that he was invaluable; all who knew him would claim that he was theirs: indeed, it has been said, that "few knew him but to love him." He seemed to excel in the good qualities of the heart, of which *charity* was prominent. He was peculiarly sensitive and "modest to a fault." Even among the alopathic physicians he had many well wishers, who manifested sympathy for his sufferings and sorrow for his loss.

Though he was instrumental in converting many individuals to homœopathy, he never introduced the subject among his alopathic friends where he thought its introduction would be disagreeable. His success in making converts was mainly accomplished by *efficiency* in the treatment of his patients.

Among those who were wont to seek his advice, for whose welfare they felt he was willing to "spend and to be spent," it has frequently been the lot of the writer to hear heart-felt regrets, and affectionate expressions; and witness the "silent tear," when conversing upon his merits.

His physical constitution, which was frail from birth, and subject to occasional attacks of illness, was poorly adapted to endure the fatigues of an arduous profession; and we find that his unremitting application had the sad effect of producing an early decline.

There was probably always a tendency to tubercular deposit in his lungs, but he enjoyed tolerable health until a year or two before his death, when marked signs of this state of his system became manifest.

During this latter period his intimate friends were apprehensive of this condition, and often endeavored to persuade him to relinquish so much labor; but when called to see a patient, he would say to his family who desired him not to go out, "They must be attended to."

Notwithstanding repeated admonitions, he continued to go, often when his own illness was greater than that of his patient, until second month, (Feb.) last, when he was attacked with inflammation at the base of his right lung, which compelled him to remain at home. In a short time the other lung was similarly attacked, and he was confined to the house until the middle of the following fourth month, (April). At this time he resumed business, though enfeebled by the effects of the pneumonia, and tubercular deposit at the apex of the left lung.

As the improvement in his health now progressed very slowly, if at all; he and his friends thought a resort to the country would be beneficial. Accordingly, in the early part of the seventh month, (July) last, he went out to his father and brother's in Delaware county, where he spent a short time, and improved slightly, though while there was attacked by diarrhoea which tended to reduce him.

As he believed himself a little better, and felt strong enough to attend to business, he came back and went to work; supposing that employment to a moderate degree would make time pass more cheerfully than idleness, a something to which he was a stranger. After attending to his patients for a couple of weeks in the latter part of seventh month, he found that instead of gaining he lost strength, and beginning to feel too feeble to labor, became somewhat discouraged concerning his final recovery.

At this period, his friends advising him to relinquish business entirely and try a visit to the mountains, he made a short journey among the coal regions of Pennsylvania, spending the most of eighth month (Aug.) at Beaver Meadow and Tamaqua.

During this time his health remained about stationary, for the invigorating effects of the mountain air were counteracted by the diarrhoea which returned upon him while there, and persisted with more or less violence until his death.

About the first of ninth month he returned, relinquished all ideas of farther business pursuits in Philadelphia; and retired to the mansion of his father, the place of his birth and home of his childhood; with the hope that he might rally, and be able to spend the winter in the south.

But death, it seemed, had marked him for his own. For he now rapidly declined in strength until the 28th of ninth month, when the "unwelcome messenger" claimed his victim. He died in the thirty-eighth year of his age.

His sufferings were borne with exemplary fortitude, for he seldom complained either of his pain or of his disappointed hopes. The hard lesson of resignation appears to have been already learned by him, so that he met his approaching end with the same composure that marked his demeanor when in the presence of his patients. The "ruling passion" may be said to have been "strong in death," for with philosophic coolness he would feel his pulse, and compare its beats with the watch until within a few minutes of the last throb of the great central organ of circulation.

It is believed however, that his calmness in the last trying moments of earth, was the fruit of that confidence he experienced in the promises of God, who has shown that "all things work together for good, to them that love him."

Dr. Esrey was never married; probably because he believed that such a condition would be injudicious for one whose health was always delicate.

His loss is keenly felt by all the homœopathic physicians who knew him. Dr. Williamson, his preceptor, speaks of him in terms of great friendship, saying that he was a "faithful student, agreeable assistant and clear-headed physician."

Dr. A. E. Small says that he found in him the *elements of greatness*; one of which was the faithful performance of all his minor duties. Among these, in a public way, was that of *Provisional Secretary*, while Dr. S. was the secretary of the American Institute of Homœopathy. With Dr. Herring and most of the others he was on terms of professional intimacy.

To the cause of Homœopathy, his example and influence were of great importance, for he was so firm a believer in the efficacy of that law of cure, that he would almost never use or permit the employment of any other mode of treatment or remedy where he had the control.

When asked, as he sometimes was, by a patient whether he or she might use this or that allopathic remedy, he would say in that decided and pleasant manner which carried the conviction that he was *right*, "you may do so if you like, but I think you can do better without it."

Philadelphia, 12 mo. 7th, 1855.

ALOPATHIC MEDICAL TREATMENT

Of Cataract by the Iodide of Potassium and Liquor Ammonia.

BY M. GARIAMOPAZ.

1st Case. Man aged 50, suffering for three months with almost total loss of sight in the left eye; capsular cataract nearly complete. Blistering on the temporal region with the liquor ammonia. The opacity of the lens had entirely disappeared in two months, and up to this time has not returned.

2nd. Case. Man aged 30; failing of the sight for two years; total loss of it in the left eye; soft lenticular cataract. Thirty centigrammes of iodine of potassium daily with blistering and ammonia. Operation performed three months after; the cataract had become semi-fluid; no change in the cataract of the right eye.

3d Case. Woman aged 40, of hysteric disposition. Incomplete hard cataracts of both eyes, of one year's duration. The patient could still discover objects brought close to the eye, and those of some size. Iodine of potassium and the liquor ammonia. Improvement in the sight after two months: she could sew after five months; under treatment for seven months. The opacity almost entirely disappeared and the lens lost its dull whitish appearance, and there remained in the centre of the pupils a small opaque spot corresponding to the nucleus of the lens.

4th Case. Woman aged 50. Hard capsulo-lenticular cataract of three years' duration; incipient cataract of the same nature in the left eye. The same treatment pursued during six months. The opacity in the left eye has almost totally disappeared. It remains however, almost as weak as at the commencement. No change in the right eye.—*El Porvenir Medico*.—*American Lancet*.

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

(Continued from page 528.)

PARTIAL PARALYSIS.

Partial paralysis may also be produced by cold acting upon the sentient extremities of nerves, occasioning loss of power in the nerves of the part. It may be brought on by intemperance, excessive sexual indulgence or self-abuse, and by whatever agency that may interrupt in any degree the function of the spinal nerves.

In regard to the prospect of effecting a cure of the various kinds of partial paralysis, much will depend upon the morbid condition. If there is complete destruction of the nerves proceeding to any single part, no cure can be effected; but if there be merely a compressing cause, such as may arise from a tumour, this may be removed by proper treatment. Those instances of paralysis that result from poison by lead or arsenic taken into the system, are, no doubt, curable. That which may result from teething may pass away when the cause subsides. The prognosis depends very much upon the morbid influence, and the length of time the patient has been afflicted. That which has continued for a long time, is liable to resist the effect of remedial means to a much greater extent than recent cases, and much doubt exists of effecting a perfect restoration when the cause is so obscure as not to be recognized.

The experience of the writer in the treatment of several cases of local paralysis, leads him to believe that the effect of homœopathic remedies is frequently successful.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE BRAIN, which is denoted by loss of mental and moral manifestation, and an absence of sensation in the part.
—*Cuprum aceticum*.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE ORGANS OF SPEECH, *Belladonna* has sometimes proved effectual. In a case occurring after rush of blood to the head, in a gentleman about fifty years of age, *Belladonna* 6th was given in daily doses for ten days without any perceptible benefit. *Sulphur* was then given at night and *Belladonna* in the morning, for four days, which evidently produced a salutary effect; the power of speech was gradually recovered, and at length a complete restoration. In another case, which seemed to occur from no defi-

nable cause, where there was complete loss of speech, *Graphites* and *Causticum* had a good effect. In a child ten years of age, who had suffered from an attack of inflammation of the brain and afterwards with loss of speech, *Causticum* and *China* in the sixth ultimatum, afforded a satisfactory result. The writer has used these remedies, however, in another case without effect, where partial restoration was effected by *Belladonna*.

Several cases of *paralysis of the tongue* have come under the writer's observation, and in one in particular, where the patient was very much prostrated, *China*, in the tincture, was given in drop doses with good effect, although *Belladonna*, *Causticum* and *Dulcamara* appeared to accomplish but little before. If paralysis of the tongue occurs from acute Hydrocephalus, *Hyoscyamus* may prove of service; if from suppressed eruption, *Graphites*; if after an attack of epilepsy, *Belladonna* or *Stramonium*. In some cases of long standing paralysis of the organs of speech, and of the tongue in particular, the effects of remedies did not become apparent for some time. In such cases, however, *Causticum* and *Graphites* may be employed. In case of paralysis of one arm, *Pulsatilla*. Miss Mehetable Pancost, aged 39, after a severe attack of vomiting, suffered paralysis of the right arm and hand, *Pulsatilla* given every twenty-four hours effected a cure in little more than a week. In case of paralysis of the lower extremities, *Nux vomica* may prove of essential service. When one side becomes paralyzed, *Causticum*, *Cocculus* and *Lachesis* are among the most prominent remedies. If partial paralysis occurs after rheumatism, *China*, *Ferrum* and *Ruta* may be regarded the most prominent remedies of the group to be consulted.

There is no resort but to internal remedies when any of the internal organs become the seat of paralysis,—but friction may be resorted to with benefit when the local paralysis involves some of the external muscles of locomotion, as

PARALYSIS OF THE BLADDER requires the internal administration of *Arsenicum*, *Helleborus*, &c.

PARALYSIS OF THE NECK OF THE BLADDER requires *Arsenicum*, *Bell.*, *Cicuta*, *Dulc.*, *Hyoscy.*, *Lach.*, &c. The *Arsenicum*, *Dulc.* and *Hyos.* being the most prominent of the group.

PARALYSIS OF THE SPHINCTER ANI.—*Acon.*, *Bell.*, *Hyosc.*, *Laur.*

PARALYSIS OF THE INTESTINAL CANAL.—*Phosphorus*.

PARALYSIS OF THE UPPER AND LOWER EXTREMITIES IN GENERAL.

—*Bell.*, *Bry.*, *Cocculus*, *Nux vom.*, *Rhus*.—These several remedies may be applied externally as well as internally, in the following way : First, second, or third dilutions, five drops in a tumbler of water may be dermically applied over the region of the difficulty.

Friction over the region of the paralysis, by rubbing with the hand, may have a salutary effect ;—but counter-irritants seldom accomplish anything favorable for the patient. The very irritation they occasion may be thrown back upon the seat of the affection so as to aggravate rather than ameliorate the difficulty.

In regard to local paralysis affecting different parts of the organs of prehension, locomotion, &c.

IN THE TREATMENT OF PARALYSIS OF THE ARMS.—*Calcarea*, *Calc. phos.*, *Cocculus*, *Nux vomica*, *Rhus*, *Sepice*, are the most prominent remedies. *China*, *Ferrum*, *Lycop.*, *Belladonna* and *Veratrum* may be consulted for particular cases.

FOR RHEUMATIC PARALYSIS OF THE ARMS, *China* and *Cocculus Ferrum* or *Tart. em.* have been employed.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE ELBOW.—*Mezerium* and *Petroleum*.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE FINGER JOINTS.—*Calcarea*, *Calc. phos.*, *Magn. C.* and *Phos.*

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE THUMBS.—*Magn. C.*

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE LOWER EXTREMITIES.—*Belladonna*, *Cocculus*, *Nux vomica* and *Rhus*, are among the most decidedly useful remedies, and also *Bryonia*, *Chinin.*, *Jodatus* and *Veratrum*.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE FEET—*Oleander* would seem to occupy the most prominent place, and *Ars.*, *China* and *Plumb.* may be consulted.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE KNEE AND KNEE JOINTS.—*Ambr.*, *Ars.*, *Baryt. c.*

FOR PARALYSIS OF LEGS.—*Aconite* and *Arsenicum*.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE TARSAL JOINTS.—*Oleander*, or perhaps *China*, *Arsenicum* and *Plumbum*.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE THIGHS.—*Aconite*, *Aurum*, *Chelidonium*, *Majus*.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE LUNGS.—The most prominent remedies are *Arsenicum*, *Carbo. veg.*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Lachesis* and *Opium*.—Those holding a subordinate relation—*Baryta*, *Graphites*, *Sambucus*, or else *Aurum*, *Camphor*, *China*, *Pulsatilla* and *Tart. em.*

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE LUNGS FROM CONGESTION OF BLOOD.—

Aconite, *Ipecac.*, *Phosphorus* and *Sambucus*, or else *Bell.*, *Bry.* and *China*.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE LUNGS OF OLD PEOPLE, *Lachesis* and *Opium*, or else *Arsenicum*, *Aurum*, *Carbo veg.* and *China*.

FOR PARALYSIS OF THE LUNGS AFTER A CATARRH.—*Arsenicum*, *Tart. em.*, or else *China*, *Camphor* and *Ipecac.* For the same difficulty in children, *Aconite* and *Sambucus*.

During treatment the utmost care should be exercised in all cases to guard against agents that may interfere with the action of remedies. The patient should have the invigorating effects of a good atmosphere in well ventilated apartments.

There are numerous difficulties that affect the whole system—that may implicate the nerves—or that the excitement of the nervous system is the chief agent in producing, among which we find,

PALPITATION OF THE HEART. (PALPITATIO CORDIS.)

The beating of the heart may be caused by nervous irritation alone, as may be inferred from the effect of violent emotions, as fright or anxiety, upon the organ. Great debility of the nervous system may occasion the difficulty, and also severe pain may so act upon the nerves as to cause a violent beating of the heart. It is often the case that this affection is mistaken for organic disease of the heart, when well chosen remedies for nervous irritation will cure the affection. When the whole system suffers from debility, the weakened condition of the nerves may give rise to innumerable sufferings, and none more frequently than palpitation of the heart.

When this affection arises from debilitating losses, such as hemorrhage or diarrhœa, *China* may exert a beneficial influence in promoting the recuperation of the system so as to obviate the difficulty.

When some violent emotion, as grief, produces palpitation of the heart, *Ignatia* will in all probability afford relief.

When produced from fright or fear, *Opium* may have a quieting effect, so as to overcome the affection.

When connected with the menstrual function," *Pulsatilla* will relieve, and also when the nerves have become excited from having taken into the stomach a rich quality of food, as fat meats or gravy.

For the excitement of the nervous system produced by indigestion occasioning palpitation of the heart, and especially at night, *Nux*

vomica may procure relief for the patient, and also, if the nerves have been excited from intoxicating drinks, producing palpitation, *Nux vomica* may have a good effect. When connected with sick headache in females of delicate constitution, or those suffering from prolapsus uteri, *Sepia* may produce a good effect upon the patient.

Arsenicum may relieve palpitation of the heart when it accompanies a paroxysm of nervous asthma. When it supervenes upon the debility produced by acute febrile difficulty, *China* will in most cases relieve.

When the action of the heart is considerable, and believed to result from nervous debility alone, *Chamomilla*, *Pulsatilla*, *Valerian*, and even *Nux vomica*, may be consulted.

In highly excitable nervous temperaments, when there are palpitation and anxiety, *Arsenicum*, *Nux vomica* and *Pulsatilla*; or, perhaps, *Calcarea* and *Ignatia* may be called into requisition.

In the treatment of all nervous affections, it is manifestly impossible to be properly guided except by the symptoms, which alone are capable of indicating the remedies to be employed.

DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

BY C. E. TOOTHAKER.

WILLAN and BATEMAN have divided these diseases (*or rather those diseases which have usually been considered as such in medical writings*) into the following classes: 1. RASHES, 2. PIMPLES, 3, VESICLES, 4. PUSTULES, 5. SCALES, 6. TUBERCLES, 7. DISCOLORATIONS, 8. CRYPTOGAMI.

I. RASHES.

A superficial redness, diffused, or in patches, disappearing under pressure, and commonly ending in desquamation.

RASHES have been divided into Rubeola, Scarlatina, Erysipelas. Erythema, Roseola and Urticaria, Rubeola, Scarlatina and Erysipelas are usually regarded as fevers, and as such should receive distinct consideration. Erythema, Roseola and Urticaria, will receive attention in this place.

1. ERYTHEMA,

Is perhaps the most simple of all eruptive diseases. It may arise

only from friction, and may be perceived in its incipient state, by simply rubbing any portion of the skin rapidly with the palm of the hand, or with any rough substance.

Simple friction, if long continued, produces permanent expansion and disorganization of the surface, which is one of the forms of Erythema, called Intertrigo or chafing. It sometimes occurs in the folds of integument, as in the neck, axilla, groin, &c., of persons disposed to fat, and of delicate skin, also in young infants.

Another form appears to be created by long continued pressure, as in bed-ridden patients.

Rubefacient substances, acrid secretions or excretions, sudden changes of temperature, and various local irritations may produce a similar affection, one form of which not unfrequently results from dropsical distention of the extremities. In this latter case it usually appears in smooth, shining, uniform patches, more or less confluent, and, if considerable, may induce febrile action.

If the patient be very feeble it may assume a purple hue, and even end in Gangrene.

Erythema, depending on constitutional causes, may appear on the face, limbs, breast, or even extend over any portion of, or over the whole body. It may appear in patches, distinct or confluent, with a sense of heat and tingling, but without severe or burning pains. This form is frequently attended with fever, depression of spirits, a sense of debility, pains in the limbs, and its sudden retrocession may give rise to various acute conditions.

Desquamation of the cuticle usually follows, and if on the scalp, the hair often falls off.

REMEDIES.—If Erythema arise from any mechanical cause, the first and principal remedy is *Arnica*, which may also be adapted to many of the constitutional conditions from which Erythema might be supposed to arise. It is especially indicated if the skin assume a bluish red color, as in bed-ridden patients, if it appear in spots, and if there be heat in the face, head, or upper parts, with coldness of the lower extremities. It is highly esteemed for bed-ridden patients, erosion of the nipples, and for excoriations from constant exposure to heat.

Chamomilla, is adapted to the excoriations of infants, especially if *Arnica* be insufficient, and if the exudation from the excoriated

surfaces be acrid, and the skin exhibit a tendency to ulceration, also for adults of sour acrid secretions, and of unhealthy skin.

Sulphur may follow *Chamomilla*, and should be exhibited for similar conditions where *Chamomilla* has produced improvement, if the improvement has ceased. The three remedies above named will cure the majority of cases.

Of other remedies a preference may be given to *Arsenicum*, for weak, cachectic individuals, of unhealthy skin, especially if the skin be bluish, or if the excoriations have taken on ulceration, having a bluish or purple appearance. In dropsical subjects it should be exhibited after or in alternation with *Pulsatilla*, or *Bryonia* also in the Erythema which follows intermittents, these remedies may be regarded as among the most certain to effect a cure. If Erythema end in Gangrene, *Arsenicum* of course would never be forgotten.

Calcarea for scrofulous children, and for Erythema dependant upon constitutional causes, where *Sulphur* and *Chamomilla* have proved insufficient, for persons disposed to fat, of unhealthy skin, easy to take on ulceration, and wherever any case obstinately resists the influence of other remedies, especially after *Nux vomica* or *Pulsatilla*.

Causticum for excoriation of the lips and their commissures, also of the nipples, and for children after other remedies have been tried with incomplete success.

Carbo vegetabilis, excoriations especially under the arm pits, and in the perineum, with oozing; and if followed by blisters, from riding on horseback, *Carbo animalis*.

Excoriations caused by the heat of summer generally require *Arnica*, *Nux vomica*, *Lycopodium* and *Sulphur*.

Of bed-ridden patients, *Arnica*, *Plumbum*.

Of the nipples, *Arnica*, *Calcarea*, *Sulphur*, *Rhus toxicodendron*, or *Chamomilla*, *Causticum*, *Graphites*, *Lycopodium*, *Nux vomica*, *Sepiæ sulphur*.

For children, *Chamomilla*, *Sulphur*, *Lycopodium*, *Sepiæ*, *Calcarea*.

2. SCARLET RASH, (ROSEOLA.)

Differs from Erythema in the efflorescence being of a rose color, and variously figured, but it is without pimples or any regular outlines. It sometimes appears like the exanthems, and is attended with fever, and sometimes as a mere eruption. It usually com-

mences with specks or small patches, on the face, neck or breast. These patches may remain distinct, but usually coalesce, and at times cover large portions of the body. Febrile symptoms, gastric derangement, or other constitutional disturbance may be observed two or three days before the appearance of the eruption, and may subside along with it, or be continued after its disappearance, or there may be no constitutional symptoms whatever observable. There may be a diffused redness as in scarlet fever, or it may be distinct like measles, with irregular elevated patches, from a mere point to half an inch in diameter. It may recede and return several times within a few days before taking its final leave, or it may continue but a brief period and then disappear altogether. Its too sudden disappearance may be followed by nausea, pain in the limbs, headache, giddiness, faintness, and the various symptoms of internal irritation. It is never contagious, nor does one attack afford any security against a second or a third, which may again be incited by similar causes. It is usually accompanied with sensations of itching or tingling.

It closely resembles Erythema, from which it is sometimes distinguished with difficulty. Erythema is usually followed with desquamation of the cuticle, Roseola is without desquamation, Roseola is more sudden in its appearance and more ephemeral in its character. Erythema is more lasting in its duration, and is less frequently attended with acute febrile irritation.

It is much more frequently confounded with scarlet fever, and measles, as it not unfrequently prevails at the same time; scarlet fever is usually accompanied with sore throat, measles with catarrh and cough, Roseola with neither. In Roseola the eruption is brighter, or more rose-colored, more regular than scarlatina, and without the crescent form of measles. When Roseola is attended with sore throat, it appears like Scarlatina, when with catarrh and cough, like Measles, and it can sometimes only be distinguished with certainty after the termination of the disease. It may be complicated in either of these diseases, as a precursor of the eruption in the early stages, and may not disappear until the eruption of the exanthem is fully established.

REMEDIES.—As this affection is often ephemeral in its character, when incited by slight causes, and independent of any deep seated constitutional disturbance, it may not always seem to require medical

interference. In a majority of cases, however, it is symptomatic of febrile action, or of some constitutional dyscrasia, and should become an indication to the physician for the solution of appropriate remedies.

Aconite is a frequently indicated remedy, especially if there be much febrile action, heat and dryness of the skin, with tingling itching, and in all cases if the eruption be accompanied with fever as in the various exanthems.

Belladonna, if the eruption simulate scarlatina, if there be sore throat, flushed face, watery eyes, also if there be much redness of the skin, if the redness appear in spots, with pulse quick and small, and when from repercussion of the eruption delirium ensues, with difficulty of respiration and dilated pupils, or with twitchings and jerkings, and uneasy restlessness.

Bryonia may follow *Belladonna* or *Aconite* in cases where *Roseola* simulates *Morbilli*, and if there be cough, especially if there be a yellow tinge to the eruption, or to the skin, and if there be tingling itching.

Chamomilla, if there be gastric disturbance, restlessness, bitterness of the mouth, and especially for children during dentition, in which case it may often be followed advantageously with *Calcarea*, *Carbonica*, or *Sulphur*.

Nux vomica, also, if there be gastric disturbance, uneasy restlessness, and irritability, costiveness, or sluggish inactivity of the stomach and bowels, colic, or diarrhœa with gripings, and also if it be attended with nausea, sour, acrid and burning eructations, tingling burning, itching of the skin, with a sense of torpidity when touched.

Pulsatilla, also, if there be gastric disturbance with diarrhœa, or with suppression of accustomed secretions, the eruption generally resembling measles, with tingling, itching or pricking, as if from the stings of ants.

Rhus toxicodendron, if it occurs from sudden changes of weather, and especially from cold damp weather, if the tingling, itching and burning be attended with a sensation of crawling, as of a worm, and especially if it be worse at night and in bed.

Sulphur always after other remedies; and in a few chronic cases where there is a predisposition to such eruptions, *Calcarea*, *Arsenicum*, *Graphites*, and perhaps *Sepia*, will be found to be necessary and useful remedies.

3. NETTLE RASH, (URTICARIA.)

This affection is characterized by elevations of the cuticle of a somewhat circular form, whence it has received the appellation of wheels, usually surrounded by a diffused redness, and always attended by itching, tingling, stinging, or burning. These elevations are of various sizes, generally roundish in shape, or may be oblong, slightly hard, and whitish, but sometimes redder than the healthy skin. They never contain any liquid, and have no tendency to suppurate. The disease is never contagious.

The acute form of the disease may commence with fever, or the fever may precede the eruption; attended with gastric and nervous affections, nausea, headache, faintness, languor, chilliness, &c. On the occurrence of the rash these symptoms usually disappear, the skin rising up in patches, surrounded by a vivid redness; the elevations themselves most frequently assuming a white appearance. Rubbing or scratching greatly increases the eruption, often causing it to appear upon apparently healthy portions of the surface. It is generally most abundant on the inside of the arms, and about the shoulders, loins, and thighs, though it may appear on any portion of the surface, or perhaps even on the inner surface of the mouth and throat. It comes and goes irregularly, often disappears in the day and returns in the evening, or appears on undressing and on retiring to bed. The eruption at times disappears in a few minutes, at other times not for hours, and an attack may last with frequent changes for a week or ten days. At the close there is usually some desquamation of the skin. A complete retrocession of the rash during the progress of the complaint frequently gives rise to alarming symptoms, which subside at its reappearance.

If the attack be occasioned by improper or unwholesome food or drinks there is usually pain at the epigastrium, nausea, vertigo, and uneasiness, and on the appearance of the eruption the face, neck and even the whole body may appear much swollen, red and flushed, interspersed here and there with wheel-like elevations, single, or in clusters, with intolerable heat, tingling and itching. The patient may also suffer from oppressed breathing, almost threatening suffocation; or the pain, nausea, vertigo, and oppression at the stomach may become alarmingly severe; this violence, however, is not likely under proper treatment, to continue many hours, and the patient generally recovers in a few days.

NETTLE RASH has been known to assume an intermittent character, either as an attendant on intermittent fever or otherwise, occurring in paroxysms, either daily or every two or four days, or even at longer intervals.

In chronic cases, the eruption after disappearing for a considerable period, may often be renewed again from slight causes, the wheels being generally whiter, and with less redness of the surrounding surface. There is the characteristic tingling, itching or stinging, and the complaint is constantly recurring for months or years. At times the wheels attain to a considerable size, and appear as small tumors, in the loins, or on the limbs. These tumors may extend over a surface of several inches, may interfere with motion, and become hot and painful, or tender to the touch. They usually subside in a few hours, and leave a sensation as if bruised. This is called *urticaria tuberosa*.

The wheels may continue for days or even weeks, although the redness has entirely disappeared. This form is called *urticaria persistens*.

If as in a few cases the eruption does not appear, or only a very few wheels which shortly disappear, whilst the stinging and itching continue, and as if needles were being run into the skin, it is termed *urticaria subcutanea*.

Urticaria is somewhat difficult to distinguish from one of the forms of Lichen, but Lichen is always papulous, Urticaria never.

TREATMENT.—For acute Urticaria the principal remedies are *Aconite*, *Bryonia*, *Dulcamara*, *Nux vomica*, *Phosphorus*, *Rhus toxicodendron*, *Urtica urens*.

Aconite may be given in all eruptive diseases, when the eruption is preceded by fever, with hot dry skin, quick pulse, restlessness, and anxiety.

Bryonia, if the sudden disappearance of the eruption is followed by difficulty of breathing, pain in the breast, and pluritic or pneumonic conditions with cough; or pain in the head with soreness, aggravated by movement.

Dulcamara, if an attack follow exposure to cold and damp weather, and if there be diarrhoea with violent itching and burning.

Nux vomica, if from a disordered stomach, with nausea, vomiting, &c., constipation, or in persons subject to affections of the liver and

stomach, discontented restlessness, cramps, convulsions, and other alarming symptoms, in which case also *Belladonna* will be found useful; also for drunkards, coffee-drinkers, wine-bibbers, &c.

Pulsatilla, when the gastric symptoms are predominant, with diarrhoea, chilliness, disposition to weep and lament, headache and shuddering, especially if there be considerable swelling and hardness, the itching and stinging being aggravated at night and by the heat of the bed.

Phosphorus, for symptoms similar to *Bryonia*, and especially after *Rhus*, if there be paleness, torpidity, and tension of the skin, cloudiness, dizziness, and vertigo, with constrictive, stinging and burning pains, and crawlings in the skin.

Rhus toxicodendron after *Bryonia*, if that remedy is insufficient, and especially if the patient is worse at night and in bed, also if it arise from change of weather, from cold damp weather, and if its disappearance is followed by constrictive stinging pains, with crawlings, shiverings as if from cold water, and itchings.

Urtica urens, when the eruption is distinct, when there is burning, stinging and itching, and when there is little constitutional disturbance.

Among other remedies may be mentioned *Arsenicum*, when the blotches are large and white, appear in clusters, and are attended with intolerable burning, itching, and stinging; *Ipecacuanha* when there are pricking pains as of needles, with nausea or vomiting, and especially if the patient scratch till vomiting ensue; *Hepar sulphuris* has been recommended where there are catarrhal symptoms affecting the head, especially if worse on one side; *Calcarea* to reproduce the eruption, when other remedies fail; *Sulphur* also for symptoms similar to *Rhus toxicodendron*, and after other remedies, to reproduce the eruption, will often be found a necessary and invaluable remedy.

Recapitulation.

For the itching, burning, stinging, &c., attendant on the eruption, all the remedies are adopted.

For the fever *Aconite* especially, and afterwards all the remedies.

For disappearance of the eruption *Bryonia*, *Rhus*, *Phosphorus*, *Calcarea* and *Sulphur*.

For gastric affections, *Nux vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, *Ipecacuanha*.

For chest affections, difficulty of breathing, cough, &c., *Bryonia*, *Phosphorus*, *Rhus*.

If the eruption be of an intermittent character, *Nux vomica*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Arsenicum*, *Calcarea carbonica* and *Lycopodium*.

If there be spasms, convulsions, &c., *Nux vomica*, *Belladonna*, *Calcarea*.

If there be much swelling, large tumor-like wheels, hard and white, *Pulsatilla*, *Arsenicum*, *Calcarea carbonica*.

CHRONIC URTICARIA.

For chronic urticaria the most approved remedies are *Lycopodium* and *Calcarea carbonica*, *Arsenicum*, *Petroleum*, also *Nux vomica*, *Ranunculus bulbosus*, *Rhus toxicodendron*, *Sulphur* and *Nitric acid*.

Lycopodium, if chronic urticaria be attended also with a long continued constipated condition of the bowels, if there be much borborismus and great tendency to suffer from cold, or from fresh air. If the gnawing and itching are aggravated by the open air, or by a change of air, and if the eruptions are large and painful with redness, also if it return periodically.

Calcarea carbonica, when there is quivering of the skin, giddiness, burning, biting, and itching, and if the eruption have a tendency to disappear in the fresh air; if there be excessive sensibility to cold, dampness, &c. More especially adapted to scrofulous persons of leuco-phlegmatic constitutions, and of loose and delicate muscular fibre.

Arsenicum has cured chronic cases with the following symptoms: round elevated wheels, surrounded by a faint blush, appear in succession in various parts of the body, and again disappear several times in a day, disease less troublesome in winter, but especially annoying in the heat of summer, depriving the patient of rest, and impairing her health, which had been good in winter.

During the autumn of 1851, I was called to treat a case of an infant child which I found when I arrived, to be affected with chronic spasms. It lay apparently senseless, there was great heat in the head, constant muscular or nervous twitchings, jerking and quivering, left side much more affected than the right side. *Belladonna*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Stramonium*, &c., afforded but slight relief,

Nux vomica promptly relieved the spasms, after the spasms a full crop of wheels appeared on the surface, large, elevated, and covering considerable portions of the body. These attacks were renewed every few months, *Calcareo carbonica* cured.

The following indications also may be consulted. For nettle rash excited or aggravated in the fresh air *Nitric Acid*; worse after violent exercise, *Conium*; chronic nettle rash with miliary eruption, *Petroleum*; also, *Causticum* and *Carbo vegetabilis*.

CLASS 2.

PAPULOUS DISEASES, (PIMPLES.)

"Slight elevations of the skin, the blood vessels being engorged with red corpuscles, and the tissue infiltrated with a colorless fluid, more consistent than serum."—*Simon*. According to Willan there are three varieties of Papulous diseases: Strophulus, Lichen and Prurigo. Papulous diseases are not contagious.

1. STROPHULUS; OR GUM,

Is divided into two varieties, the red and the white gum, which appears to differ but little except in color. The eruption generally appears on those parts of the body which are most exposed to the atmosphere, as the face, arms, &c.; but may extend over the whole body. It is generally confined to infancy, and is seldom or never seen after the first dentition.

Strophulus in its most simple form consists of minute florid pimples, interspersed with occasional patches of redness and perhaps a few vesicles, which dry up without breaking. Occasionally, there are intermingled with these a few white or light-colored vesicles, and sometimes all the pimples have this appearance. The severer forms of this complaint are attended with pain and itching, and at times with excoriations resembling intertrigo. It generally runs its course as an acute disease in from two weeks to a month, and often occurs with but little fever or other disturbance of health. If the pimples are numerous they may create distress by their heat and itching, which would be greatly increased by keeping the child too warm. It is not usually dangerous, but its retrocession may be followed by severe internal sufferings.

TREATMENT.—If the disease be caused by dentition, give *Chamomilla* and *Sulphur*; *Chamomilla* at night, *Sulphur* in the morning,

for a few days, and the eruption will probably entirely disappear; should this prove insufficient, give *Calcarea carbonica*. For children of delicate skin and of manifest scrofulous tendencies, if the above remedies prove insufficient, *Mercurius* will often be found useful after *Chamomilla*.

If the disease be the result of uncleanness, of badly ventilated rooms, and bad air, or of keeping the child too warm, *Rhus toxicodendron* is the best remedy, afterwards *Sulphur* or *Causticum*.

If there be fever, *Aconite* should be given, and for retrocession of the eruption, give *Rhus*, and afterwards *Sulphur*; if not relieved give *Calcarea*, or *Bryonia*, or *Phosphorus*, or if there be spasms and convulsions with gastric sufferings give *Nux vomica*.

Strophulus is but a mild form of Lichen, under which head it has been properly included.

2. LICHEN.

There are three varieties of Lichen; Simplex, Agrius, and Urticatus.

LICHEN SIMPLEX.

Lichen Simplex consists of small red pimples about the size of a pin's head, appearing like strophulus on the more exposed surfaces of the body, and sometimes also extending itself over the other parts. They may have more or less heat, tingling and itching, are usually larger on the face, and often slightly vesicular on the extremities; they begin to decline in a few days, and terminate in a slight scurf in one or two weeks. Sometimes successive crops of the eruption appear, and the complaint is prolonged even for months. After scratching, small bloody scabs are frequently seen on the surface of the papulæ, which in some chronic cases scarcely differ from the skin in color, and can perhaps only be discovered by passing the hand along the surface; or there may be desquamation and thickening of the skin until the disease resembles Psoriasis.

The prickly heat of summer is one of the simplest forms of Lichen, which is often very severe in tropical countries, the tingling, stinging and itching being almost insupportable.

The Lichen pilares of Willan occurs only at the roots of the hair.

Lichen lividus has a purplish hue resulting from the scorbutic or hæmorrhagic constitution of the patient.

One form of ringworm is the Lichen circumscriptus of Willan, the eruption appearing in a circular form. In this form, as new pimples form on the circumference, those in the centre fade and exfoliate.

Lichen Gyrratus appears in the form of a band, and seems to travel over some portion of the skin.

Lichen Simplex is often unattended with any observable functional disturbance whatever, though its retrocession may be attended with morbid sensations.

TREATMENT.—If there be fever *Aconite* should be given, which is also indicated by the pricking and stinging eruption like flea bites, or by the broad red blotches, sore and sensitive to the touch.

Bryonia after *Aconite*, especially during the heat of summer, and in tropical climates where it is caused by the intense heat. If these remedies are followed by *Sulphur* they will cure a large proportion of cases. *Carbo animalis* or *Vegetabilis* should be given if the roots of the hair are affected, and if the itching be aggravated on retiring to bed at night.

Rhus toxicodendron may be given after *Aconite* or *Bryonia*, when they prove insufficient, also in alternation with *Carbo*, when the roots of the hair are affected, and if followed by *Sulphur* will generally complete the cure.

For all the varieties of Lichen, Hunt, (alopathic,) recommends *Arsenicum*, Fowler's Solution, and records a number of cures, and Devergie, (also alopathic) strongly recommends *Cantharides*.

LICHEN AGRIUS.

This variety commences with fever, nausea, pain in the stomach, headache and chilliness, which subsides on the appearance of the eruption, or if the fever continue it is in a milder form. The pimples are very small and numerous, red and inflamed, and appear in patches, and being attended with itching, burning and a painful tingling; it has sometimes been mistaken for erysipelas. The continuous redness between the pimples, and the tendency to become pustular, distinguish this from the *Lichen Simplex*: also, in general, the severity of the symptoms, the itching and tingling being combined with a smarting and burning pain, which is greatly aggravated by the heat of the bed, and by everything which tends to irritate the surface. It is generally alleviated in the morning and worse towards evening. After a few days the pimples partially ulcerate, discharging a sero purulent fluid, which concretes into small scabs. In about two weeks the complaint usually terminates in minute furfuraceous scales. It usually occupies the outer surface of the limbs, but may occur on the cheek.

TRANSFORMATIONS AND PROPERTIES OF MATTER,

BY JOHN F. GEARY, M. D.

(Continued from page 568, No. 6, Vol. 4.)

The party being seated, as described in our last, if the room be moderately warm, it will be found that the table will give clear intimations of a desire to change its place, and be ready to move to the right or left, to elevate itself on two legs, either toward the end or side, as requested, or fall upon the knees of the person desiring its wooden embrace! It will clearly and distinctly reply to any questions, however serious or trivial,—the age of each person, the place of birth, whether friends or relatives are living or dead, over what lands and seas one has travelled, and, in a word, all questions that may suggest themselves, *provided the answers are distinctly known* to any or all of the party. But prognostics were found generally at fault, for instance, the reply to whether one shall receive a letter by next mail? was generally *as the person would have it*, “yes,” though the letter did not come as promised. The table in fact moved, turned, “tumbled over,” danced a hornpipe, sidled in a waltz and performed an “Irish jig;” doing immense justice to the latter, by bounding and capering beyond all control,—still at the word “stop,” though the hand of the speaker *did not touch*, there was *perfect and instant* obedience. Repeated and continuous experiments produced similar results. Now, in all this there was no appeal to the “*spirits*”—no disturbance of that sacred ashes so recklessly and profanely outraged as a means of “raising funds” by the idle and the worthless. The addresses were to the *deal table*, and to that alone; and this singular phenomenon proved to be only the clear and undoubted effect produced by some *material* influence, communicated from the hands of the operators to the wood, which would appear to have been under the *direction of the will* to a very considerable extent. How, and in *what quantities*, matter acts in this case we cannot undertake to say of course, but that *it does so act*, and by its unappreciable atoms produce these singular results no sound thinker will for a moment doubt. To attribute it to “*spirits*” is so preposterous, so unscientific and so profane, that we have no words strong enough to apply to those who have done so for the purpose of gain, and no language to express our pity for the honest, but weak-minded persons who are their victims.

There are numerous other instances in which gigantic powers, almost beyond human calculation, are clearly and confessedly evolved by the division of gross matter into minute atoms. Water converted into steam is a familiar instance; and one to which Archimedes, were he alive, might well apply the words, "Give me *standing-room* and I will overturn the globe!" with far more point than even to his ingenious mechanical contrivance. Common salt, sugar, and many other soluble bodies are instances familiar to every one, they develop their full powers only when they are reduced to infinitesimal particles. The following is a beautiful and interesting instance of the susceptibility of matter to yield to the genius of man when he would compel it to declare *wonders so great* that his own vision must needs be aided by a foreign power of vast extent to discover the new beings he has created:

"A microscopic photograph was recently exhibited at Manchester, England, of the size of a pin's head, which, when magnified several hundred times, was seen to contain a group of seven portraits, the likenesses being admirably distinct. Another of less size represented a tablet erected to the memory of a citizen of Manchester; it covered only one nine-hundredth part of a superficial inch, and contained six hundred and eighty letters, every one of which could be distinctly seen by the aid of the microscope."

The science of chemistry, with which every medical man is, or should be, familiar, furnishes so many illustrations to establish our analogy, that the difficulty seems to be which to select out of the great numbers that offer themselves. In fact the whole science is one grand declaration in favor of "homœopathic doses," so much so indeed, that every practical chemist must necessarily be a believer in *his heart* at least; for it is not always, and indeed but seldom, that his convictions and his interests hang together in his peculiar calling. He finds by daily experience that a few drops of liquid will dissolve a *solid metal* to a mere powder,—copper in nitric acid,—by the admixture of two colorless liquids, he finds a *white substance* to be the result; and still more wonderful, that this very experiment affords him one of the most striking instances known of the power of small atoms of matter. This test is within the reach of every school-girl; put a quart or two of water in a glass vessel, add one drop of a solution of *common salt*, into the water let fall a single drop of a *solution of nitrate of silver*, and in

a moment the vessel will be full of white fumes which settle in a short time at the bottom of the jar, being what is called *chloride of silver*. So beautifully delicate is this, that a single grain of common salt dissolved in 42,250 grains of water will show the muriatic acid on the application of a drop of the test; that is, 1 part in 108,333 of the weight of the solution. And yet small doses of medicines can produce *no* effect in that *two-necked* jar, the human stomach!—no, *because* the doctor *has never tried*, and *will not try*; and the druggist “*would be ruined at once*,”—the doctor would *lose*, for the “*per-centage*,” kindly understood, when the “*drug-store*” does not actually *belong* to the doctor, must necessarily come down to a very small fraction indeed. The mere fumes of sulphur will deprive the most beautiful and blooming rose of its blush, and the red rose becomes white, but just dip it in a tumbler of water and it will be as red as ever in a moment. The component parts of the contents of your salt cellars, on the dinner table are *deadly poisons*;—*muriatic acid* and *caustic soda*,—which produce *chloride of sodium*, or kitchen salt.

The mere union of two cold liquids, sulphuric acid and water, produces a mixture so intensely hot that the glass vessel containing it cannot be held a moment in the hand. Sympathetic inks afford us still more striking instances. It is only necessary to take a solution of sugar of lead, and with a clean pen write on a piece of paper, which being folded in any number of sheets and laid between two boards, then wash the surface of the board with liquid sulphuretted hydrogen, the writing which before was invisible becomes perfectly legible. Here it is clear that the *vapour*, which penetrates the substance of both wood and paper, could alone produce this effect; and to calculate *the quantity* of matter which wrought this change would be even a more onerous task than to estimate the *thirtieth dilution of aconite*. Yet no one who has learned the very alphabet of chemistry will deny the former, while thousands of *sage philosophers*,—“who have read Alexander Ross over”—and know a good deal of chemistry, and tens of thousands of sucking doctors, who know little or nothing of anything, declare most emphatically, and with a sturdy show of self-confidence, that the latter could have no effect whatever on the human organism even in its most susceptible and sensitive condition.

We know how Theophrastus Paracelsus excited the admiring and awfully superstitious wonder of the uneducated people of his day,

by making summer and winter alternately appear in the same picture! And every school-boy can now do as much by sketching a landscape with the well-known ink prepared from *cobalt*, and exposing it by turns to heat and cold. No one, we should think, will question the wonderfully small scale upon which matter here acts and is acted upon; and when men under the guidance of learning and sound reasoning follow out the analogy of nature there will be less prejudice against trying the effects of medicines in smaller quantities than would destroy any of the lower animals in a very short time, but which the human constitution has the power to resist for a long period and in a most wonderful degree.

In attempting, by the analogy established in these papers, to demonstrate the reasonableness of expecting marked and decided effects from small doses of medicine, we would not be understood to advocate the miserable heresy, for it deserves no better name, which the reputation-seekers of our school have fallen into, in endeavouring to establish their "dynamization" doctrine. By this they would have us understand that by the process of dilution an *immaterial principle* is evolved, which principle they call a "*dynamic*" or *spiritual* power! We are not ignorant of the fact that Hahnemann has in the "Organon of Medicine,"—page 217, New-York ed. 1849,—these words: "The homœopathic healing art developes for its purposes the *immaterial* (dynamic) virtues of medical substances, and to a degree previously unheard of, by means of a peculiar and hitherto untried process!" Now if asked how we can get over an article of "our creed" so plainly laid down, we answer that Hahnemann was *a man, not a god*; that whatever he has *proved*, and *experience has corroborated*, we receive and act upon, but assertions *contrary to the nature of things*, which neither have been, nor can be demonstrated by any man, being simply dogmatical, we do not believe.

No one can evolve from matter that which matter does not contain, matter contains *no immaterial* essence, therefore the process of trituration or dilution cannot develop a spiritual power or essence from matter. *Matter* and *spirit* are eternally and essentially different: no combination or arrangement of the former can produce the latter; they are separate existences having nothing in common. Spirit cannot be matter nor any portion of matter; neither can matter be spirit, or in any of its forms, however ethereal, be resolved into spirit:—"ex nihilo nihil fit."—Nature, philosophy, science and

revelation itself have never uttered any other voice than that we have here expressed. We claim the power of thought and of following their leadings. Hahnemann's great enthusiasm, under the high flush of his well-deserved fame, carried him sometimes a little too far,—this is a case in point—and the sound and careful demonstrator became, in an evil moment, an enforcer of “dogmatic theology.” This is no extraordinary case; there have been few great reformers who, at one time or other, did not run into like extremes. We have made it sufficiently clear that we have full confidence in our *homœopathic small doses*; but whether these, in their most effective form, be the *third*, the *sixth*, the *twelfth* or the *thirtieth*, ad infinitum, as each or any medical man may think best, they are *still matter, substance*, as much so as air, water, or stone, and the effects they produce are the effects produced *by matter, and not by spiritual or dynamic agency*. That the curative effects have been immensely heightened, even beyond human calculation or conception, is admitted, but “MATTER IS INFINITELY DIVISIBLE,” and whether we cure with Belladonna, 3, or with Belladonna, 3000, it is still *material influence* and not spiritual. But as soon as any one can prove to us that any other spirit, *save alcohol*, can be produced or evolved from matter, we shall at once take leave of our present convictions and become as high dilutionists and as strong advocates for “dynamic agency” as any of the German medical transcendentalists.

MR. EDITOR :

The following I find among the clippings of the Public Ledger:—

“IN the ‘MEDICAL PATHOLOGY,’ by M. M. Becquerel and Rodier, it is argued that there exists no affinity between the disease known as chlorosis and anemia. In the one, the cause for the most part is unknown; it is a perturbation of the nervous system; the exact point of departure is difficult to define. There is a certain number of circumstances which constitute a predisposition to favor the development of chlorosis. Among them may be mentioned that it occurs almost exclusively between the ages of 15 and 25; that it is developed only in females; that moral emotion and grief sometimes favor its rapid development, and that the dwelling in cities and sedentary life exert influence upon the manifestation of this disease.”

The views the above article presents are opposed to those enter-

tained by many other pathologists. The late lamented Dr. Loomis, in the articles published in this Journal some time since, as well as in various conversations with his classes, advocated the idea, that chlorosis was intimately connected with, or dependant upon, some morbid condition of the digestive or assimilative functions, and that this disease, or a condition closely analogous thereto, might, and frequently does, affect males as well as females.

I have given the article from the Ledger for the purpose of inviting attention to the subject, and would remark that I see no good reason why M. Becquerel or Rodier should assume, that anemia or chlorosis, especially consist in a perturbation of the nervous system. In both, the nervous system is often greatly disturbed (*perturbed*), but this *perturbation* instead of being a cause, may be only a concomitant symptom, by which the nature of the disease itself is manifested. It is not in the order of nature that the cause which produces any manifestation, should be so readily cognizable as the manifestation itself, and it is contrary to all true philosophy in medicine, to confound diseases with symptoms, or to regard symptoms as the constituent elements of disease; and I would ask these savans in philosophy whether the fact, that both in chlorosis and in anemia, there is manifestly a degree of nervous perturbation, (*which I do not suppose they would presume to deny*), is, or is not, evidence presumptive, that in some particular at least, they may have a common origin; and does not this fact, if it prove any thing, disprove the theories of M. M. Becquerel and Rodier?

Respectfully,

C. E. TOOTHAKER.

ON THE PROPHYLACTIC POWER OF BELLADONNA IN SCARLET FEVER.

BY DR. ELB OF DRESDEN.

From the British Journal.

In the preface to Belladonna in the first volume of the *Materia Medica*, Hahnemann expressly states, that a dose of this remedy administered every six or seven days is a perfect prophylactic for the common scarlet fever, *scarlatina laevigata*. Let us examine whether this dictum is worthy of the implicit faith which Hahnemann demands of us.

If we ask how he came to this conclusion, we find from an essay, published in 1801, "On the Prevention of Scarlet Fever," that a lucky accident gave him the first idea, and, his sagacity soon guessing the hidden truth, at the first opportunity he tried Belladonna as a prophylactic, though he had never as yet used that medicine as a curative.

Finding the first few trials successful, he at once laid it down as a law, that Belladonna under any and every circumstance was a prophylactic for scarlet fever; thus in his zeal for the benefit of his fellow creatures allowing his fancy to supercede his great and acute powers of observation.

He who on other occasions, as for instance, in the selection of remedies, specialized so minutely, forgot that many things must be considered before he could be justified in thus enunciating a law so general, and of such extensive bearing.

But in this it happened to him as on some later occasions, when that which he found occurring in some cases, he decided would do so with mathematical certainty in all similar ones.

The most striking example of this is his psora theory, to which every unprejudiced medical man will agree so far as this, that many chronic affections have as their origin and feeder sometimes suppressed skin diseases, sometimes an inherited disposition to those diseases; and that further, such complaints can only be cured by recalling or producing the eruption; but no scientific practitioner will or can accept this theory to the extent that Hahnemann did. So it seems to be with the *infallible* prophylactic power of Belladonna in scarlet fever.

Hahnemann himself restricted his power to the scarlatina of Sydenham, and in his essay prescribes a dose every three days, but where a greater danger of infection exists, as in delicate and weakly children, or during violent epidemics, at first one dose daily, and afterwards at longer intervals; the dose being for a child two years old, two drops, and for every year an additional drop. Two drops of the dilution Hahnemann used, corresponding to about one drop of our seventh decimal dilution. And this practice he recommends to be followed during the whole time of the epidemic, and for four or five weeks afterwards.

But as scarlet fever epidemics sometimes last from six to twelve months, it does not seem advisable to continue the administration of

Belladonna for so long a time, as very unpleasant primary effects might be produced, not likely to be beneficial to the children, who were thus sought to be protected from scarlet fever.

So long a course of Belladonna could only be justified, if the prophylactic power lasted for life, or a series of years, as is the case with vaccination.

Apart from all this, it is always a difficult task to ascribe prophylactic powers to any remedy, and any statement of the kind is but a hypothesis, let there be as many corroborative facts as you will, and can only be made with regard to a particular epidemic, and not all future ones.

Hahnemann himself seems to have gone no further, his experiments having been confined to the epidemic then prevailing.

We demand of every remedy to which we ascribe a prophylactic power for any disease, that it shall stand in a specified relation to the complaint, and that it must be capable of curing such complaint when fully developed.

According to the *Materia Medica*, Belladonna is said to produce the *scarlatina laevigata* only, and therefore to be a prophylactic for it; the latter being an assertion we can neither confirm nor deny, as during eighteen years of homœopathic practice, we have never seen this species of scarlet fever in its pure form, the fever, which appears in Dresden, being invariably either *scarlatina miliaris*, or mixed with that of Sydenham, against neither of which, according to Hahnemann, can Belladonna be of any avail, he not having found it produce in healthy persons the exanthem peculiar to them.

But as in both species the concomitant symptoms are alike, and from our own experience we are quite convinced of the power of Belladonna to produce in healthy persons a miliary eruption, resembling that of *scarlatina*, of which everybody may convince himself by applying Belladonna externally in sufficient quantity, this remedy ought to be prophylactic and curative for both species.

That it is curative in the miliary species, we have a thousand cases to prove; but as it is no prophylactic for it, we may conclude that its boasted prophylactic power in the common scarlet fever might be found to fail.

Perfectly true is it, that many children, to whom Belladonna is administered as a prophylactic during an epidemic, remain free from scarlet fever; but whether this symptom happens in consequence thereof, or from there not being any tendency to the disease, must

remain undecided as long as it is observed just as frequently that no prophylaxis takes place; the children, notwithstanding the administration of Belladonna, becoming infected, and the disease itself not even being made milder.

These apparently contradictory facts, which every practitioner will frequently meet with, may easily be explained.

When we consider the physiological effects of Belladonna, as regards scarlet fever, we find beside the eruption a strong erethic fever, with burning heat, full pulse, angina tonsillarum et faucium, delirium and sopor; the two latter symptoms, however, being caused by congestion to, or inflammation of the brain, and not constituting a separate primary affection of the substance of the brain.

This kind of scarlet fever is cured by Belladonna* given alternately with Aconite, if the fever is violent, and to epidemics of this erethic character, which are comparatively little dangerous, the prophylactic power of Belladonna seems to be confined.

To this category doubtless belongs the epidemic in which Hahnemann made his first successful trials, for although he describes it as a virulent one, the only symptoms he adduces are such as we observe in all cases not of the mildest character, while those cases which indicate virulence are entirely wanting, even the pulse cannot have shown any peculiarity, or Hahnemann, with the accuracy with which he has described all the other symptoms, would certainly not have failed to mention it.

But in other epidemics, in which a predisposition to paralysis of the brain and lungs prevails, where the pulse is not hard and full, but at first somewhat soft and undulating, not unlike the "*pulsus dicrotus*," and becoming small at a later period, Belladonna is injurious, because its pathogenetic effects are diametrically opposed to the disease, and therefore *impending paralysis, resulting from direct weakness in the respective organs, can never be averted by it*, and in selecting a remedy we cannot decide from the mere form of the

* The concomitant symptoms only, but not the exanthem, which runs its regular course; as measles, with or without *Pulsatilla* or *Aconite*, will go through its different stages; and in our opinion the natural course of an eruption cannot be altered except by poisons.

[This is not very intelligible. We apprehend *Aconite* and *Pulsatilla* are poisons if given in sufficient dose, and nothing else is a poison if not given in sufficient dose. Does Dr. Elb mean that nothing short of a fatal dose will modify an eruption? But if anything short of a fatal dose will alter the course of an eruption, may it not be made use of in therapeutics?—Eds.]

exanthem, but the more essential characteristics of the disease should be considered.

Now Belladonna cannot be a prophylactic for a disease which it is not capable of curing, and in this case it certainly is not the medicine indicated; those which best answer to the symptoms being *Calcarea carbonica* and *Zinc*, which however are not themselves prophylactics.

For the same reason Belladonna is not to be used as a prophylactic or curative in these forms of scarlet fever which incline to the putrid or typhoid character, where *Muriatic acid*, *Ammonium carbonicum*, *Carbo vegetabilis*, *Rhus toxicodendron*, *Arsenicum*, and *Staphysagria*, would be more suitable.

The question now remains, would it be judicious to the less dangerous epidemics, where Belladonna, according to its pathogenesis, may be expected to be prophylactic, to administer it as such to healthy children.

The demand for such a prophylactic can arise only from too great an anxiety; and its advisability seems very doubtful, when we consider that it would be better for children to be seized with scarlet fever during a mild epidemy, and thus be protected for life, than that they should be carefully preserved from it, only perhaps to be the victims of a future and more dangerous epidemic, for which we have at present no prophylactic.

* We recommend, therefore, that Belladonna should be used as a prophylactic in the case of those children only, whose debilitated state of health might not be able to support the attack of even a mild scarlet fever.

These opinions rest not upon empty speculations, but are founded upon great experience.

The "jurare in verba magistri" loses its value as soon as science is concerned.

Our master, Hahnemann himself, exhorts us not blindfolded to follow authority, but to examine for ourselves, and if we have here ventured to question one of his dicta, homœopathy will not suffer, as the *prophylactic* power of Belladonna affects in no way the fundamental principle of the system; while objections and attempted explanations are all based upon the principle of "*similia similibus*."*

* [We gladly gave a place to the communication of so able and practical a physician as Dr. Elb, but, of course, do not hold ourselves as at all committed to the views expressed in this article, in any respect in which they differ from those we have already maintained.—Eds.]

EDITORIAL.

In common with all independent and educated members of our school we are deeply anxious that the practical suggestions thrown out in the editorial of last month should not only be not lost sight of, but that some immediate action should be the result of them. Some action that may more clearly define our position before the public, tend to establish fuller confidence in the minds of the people as to our real character, and higher regard and stronger mutual esteem towards one another. In all trades, professions and callings there are combinations, unions, associations, and institutions for the purpose of general benefit, common protection, social intercourse, and the interchange of good offices and necessary assistance between individual members. It is clear that combinations of this nature must inspire confidence in the public mind; they feel their affairs safe in the hands of a body of men who know how to protect themselves, and who exercise a constant *surveillance* over their own honor and character, both in private and public. It is a common adage, that "*there is honor even among thieves!*" and every day furnishes instances that they are often found unflinchingly true to each other, though false to all beside. Our medical brethren of the Allopathic school have set us an example in this matter which we would do well to imitate, as well as *all that is valuable* in their school. Between Homœopathic physicians in this city there seems to be neither union, confidence, nor a large share of mutual respect, or even ordinary courtesy. This is a humiliating confession, but who does not know that it is true? We cannot combine and organize to establish and maintain a public hospital, with even *six beds* in it, that may serve, as far as it would go, as a public demonstration of the truth of our system. It is not many days since we listened with deep regret to an assertion, which we felt to be a close approximation to the truth, made in a note to an educated physician of our number by a medical man of high standing and character of this city, belonging to the old school, which prognosticated "the speedy downfall of Homœopathy in consequence of the disunion and differences in their ranks, which were not held together even by a rope of sand, and that it was impossible to find *three of them in the same room of whom two did not agree to pronounce the third a blockhead.*" We know this to be literally true in too many

instances; and that they are only exceptional cases where it is not. We have with our own ears heard large numbers of our physicians stigmatised, in a body, as "*a set of ignoramuses that ought to have been exposed ten years ago.*" And the "*Homœopathic doctor*" who used it in our presence is quite indifferent as to where, or in what company, this language is used, provided he thinks there is a fair chance that it will raise himself in the estimation of the listeners,—perhaps there are few lovers of calumny, who can boast a better motive. The readers of this Journal and of the "*Homœopathic News*" have seen that expressions equally strong in condemnation of many of our best men, have been sent without qualification before the world! Now what is the cause of all this? No doubt the first and chief cause is no uncommon one—a cause which has created similar troubles, and as great dangers, in all "*beginnings*" from the building of Carthage to this day. It is still,—

"Res dura, et regni novitas,"—

our adverse circumstances and the newness of our kingdom, which must be accounted as the great first cause of our troubles and disadvantages. *Time*, all are ready to say, will cure these evils!—we grant it, because we are sure it is true; still, as time is but the measure of actions we cannot help thinking that we have it in our power, as a body, to shorten the period. Now all know that the Homœopathic physicians, and "*doctors*" of this city, as well as of the whole of the United States, may be classed under three heads—viz: 1. Graduates of the old school who have become converts to the new. 2. Graduates of our own colleges,—of which there are two, and 3,—those who are graduates of *no school or college*, who have had no medical education, and very little, of any other kind—men who have *taken their own diploma from themselves*; and who, furnished with a "*Domestic Physician*" and a small case of medicated globules, commenced the "*doctoring business*"—as they call it.—Or, perhaps, there may be some, who after a few interviews with another "*doctor*" in *large practice*, have for a consideration obtained *his certificate*, upon which they have "*started*," with the assurance that *one*, at least, besides themselves, thought them fit to administer to the wants of the sick and dying. No one can deny that there is a very large proportion of this third class,—the genus, "*doctor*,"—if not a majority, mixed up and identified with the two former

classes. This state of things being well known, will any one wonder that we have not the fullest amount of confidence, or the highest opinion of each other, as educated men and physicians? It must be clear that those who form the two first, must have received a *medical* education at least, which had cost time and money; that no small number of them are otherwise educated and accomplished gentlemen, and that thus they are in the social scale, as well as in professional rank, far above men who have received no education whatever, are degraded by assuming the right to practice a profession to which they have no claim, and are therefore openly "*receiving money under false pretences*" from those whom they succeed in victimizing. Who can expect union among such elements? it never can, never did, and never will exist. We at once plead guilty to this abuse of our name and profession. Our old school neighbours are not free from a similar admixture, only they have taken a precaution, which we have thus far neglected, by drawing a clear line of demarcation between their honorable members and the quacks who assume, and disgrace their title. What is to hinder our following their example? Surely there are enough of the first two classes to form a respectable union,—a "COUNTY or CITY CONSERVATIVE UNION OF HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIANS." Let a clear title to show that a candidate has received a medical education at home or abroad, and has an honorable name in society, be the only requirements to constitute a member. In short, he *must show his diploma*, and produce proof of being a respectable man. Let the public and the profession know that such a society exists, that as many as choose may join it, and that the people may learn, if they wish to take the trouble, whom to trust with their health and lives. Any further rules or regulations may be short, simple and effective. The time and expense to each member will amount comparatively to nothing. And the good done to all, to each, and to the community will be incalculable. At one blow we shall have cut ourselves loose from the horrid carcase to which we are now bound, in the shape of quacks and *anti-diploma men*, a healthy, sound and honorable union will soon be the result, both college and hospital would flourish under our generous and united sacrifices and efforts, our cause would prosper and the community be blest.

Nor should we stop here. *The world should know what we really*

are, and where to find us. As our practice is *different* in the administration of medicines and that we take our peculiar designation from this one feature, which only distinguishes us from the old school, we should be publicly known by it. Every medical man's "office" should show *to what school he belongs*, "HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN" should be openly seen on his premises; so that no one should mistake him for a member of the Allopathic school, and have his orthodoxy shocked by *an accidental* call; and that no person should pass by him who had fled in terror from salivation and Spanish flies. We are at a loss to know why this is not more generally the case among men who stand high in our body in this city. Surely they are not ashamed of Homœopathy, or of showing their colors! Now, for ourselves, we like to stand before the community in our true character, whether this position may be attended with loss or gain. We are sure that many in various parts of the city pass the doors of members of our school in search of *Homœopathy*, and that they seldom if ever get a patient who calls under the impression that they belong to the old school; and no honorable man would take advantage of such a visit to persuade a patient to try his prescription.

There is nothing disgraceful in Homœopathy at this time-of-day to make us blush for it; at home and abroad it is alike honorable and honored. And the day is not far distant when men will revere the *first learned* and *true advocates* of the cause who impressed it upon the minds of the people even from their *doors* and *windows*, as well as by its salutary effects, in their hands, at the bed of sickness. It is time then, that we should be known as practitioners according to the law of cure we adopt. And even if there were an advantage in being known by no peculiar designation but simply as Dr. Jones, or Smith, we should not avail ourselves of what *is not ours*. It is true we *are doctors, legally* and *virtually* as much as Jones or Smith. The legal decree of a state gives us a college, and the faculty of the college grants us a diploma for which we have studied and paid; we hold all the branches commonly taught in medical colleges as part of our education; but more, we are medical men "*cum privilegio*,"—we are disciples of a *new* and *improved* school of medicine, which affords advantages of a high order, which involve no less than the well-being of the people! Men should be proud of such a distinction. Our peculiar badge should, therefore,

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — FEBRUARY, 1856. — No. XI.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

OUR LITERATURE.—A REVIEW.

By JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M. D.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 602, VOL. 4.)

DR. DUDGEON'S LECTURES ON HOMŒOPATHY.

WE noticed in the last article under this head our obligations to Dr. Dudgeon, of London, for his collection and translation of Hahnemann's "Lesser Writings;" but we owe him a still larger debt for services even of a more important and valuable character. Dr. Dudgeon is well known as one of the able editors of "The British Journal of Homœopathy;" a periodical which has maintained the dignity of our school, defended the integrity of our profession, from time to time poured well-merited contempt upon the silly assumptions, and the pointless attempts at ridicule put forth by our opponents, and exposed the fallacy of their more serious arguments, from its first appearance to the present day: and, indeed, the only periodical of our school which has held its place from the first as a useful and valuable addition to our literature. But we call attention to a far more important production, than either of these, from the pen of the same author. This work has not yet become as much known on this side of the Atlantic as it deserves, is not as much read as it should be, and has never been as strongly recommended here as its high literary character and most valuable contents demand.

Dr. Dudgeon's "LECTURES ON THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF HOMŒOPATHY" will remain a standard work for students and phy-

sicians, as long as Homœopathy remains an acknowledged branch of medical science—and that is, so long as the members of the human family shall require medical aid.

In this work, for the first time, the whole subject receives that careful, studied and accurate investigation which comes up to the student's expectations, and satisfies his longings for deep and extensive information on the subject to which he is about to devote his life.

It takes up the law, *similia*, not with Hahnemann's discovery of the fact, but with the first dawn of light which its partial flickerings manifested to the Greek and Latin fathers of medicine while pouring over their crude theories, and groping their uncertain way among the tangled fastnesses through which experience and science had not yet cut the high-way to perfect knowledge. He thus gives us all that can well be said, not only of the struggles of our therapeutic art through long ages of error and darkness, but a history of the development of the medical science, such as it was, down to the days of our founder. And then enters into a clear exposition of Homœopathy, as taught by Hahnemann himself, and his contemporaries, as well as by their successors.

It is not needful that we should enlarge upon the undoubted scholarship, the extensive and accurate research and the uncompromising independence which every portion of this work displays, while it effectually separates the wheat from the chaff which had grown upon our great discoveries, and well nigh hidden their original quality and purity.

It is not too much to say, that our law of cure has suffered more disgrace and incurred more danger at the hands of its ill-informed, unscrupulous, and almost reckless friends, than it has suffered from its open and professed enemies. And if ever any cause has had good reason to exclaim, "*save me from my friends!*" it surely is Homœopathy. The number of men whose desperate and half ruined intellectual condition has urged into this new war of opinion, in hopes of distinguishing themselves as champions in a cause which but few could be supposed to understand, is absolutely immense! And the strange and grotesque attitudes they have assumed, in doing what they call "battle with the enemy," no less surprising. The weapons they have provided themselves with are truly of a character to create mirth more than terror on all hands.

So much so, indeed, that if our opponents did not constantly twit us with them, and *assume that these men were really sane*,—while all the world could perceive that they stood in the same relation to us in the battle of science, as Don Quixote, and his squire, Sancho Panza, stood to the true champions of liberty in the days of chivalry—that we might well afford to permit them to pursue their insane freaks without molestation, and suffer them to talk away in their mysterious and incomprehensible jargon of the *wonderful* “*cures*,” the astounding and multifarious “*provings*” which their fancies had conjured up with as much facility as our heroes of La Mancha could transform flocks of sheep, wind-mills and barbers into armies, giants and valourous knights—from which no body but themselves could find by experiment, or perceive by reasoning, a single useful fact or addition to our science.

“Experimentalists,” “Philosophers,” and “Poets” have sprung into being with the advent of our cause, armed and accoutred, like the giant sons of the Dragon’s Teeth—

— “*crescitque seges clypeata virorum.*”—

But, fortunately too for us, like them only destined to turn their weapons against their own breasts and destroy one another. Men who only waited for some great crisis in the world of science and letters to immortalize themselves. These experimentalists have left not an inch of the field of nature unexplored; their analysis have grasped the smallest parasites which find their home and food on the leaves of plants or in the furs of beasts, as well as the most forbidding and disgusting excrements of living beings. These have been duly “proved” and “potentized,” and nothing less than universal miracles, embracing vegetable and animal existence, attributed to them! But, alas, the glory and the praise must forever remain with the original workers, for, like all miracles, whether false or true, no aspirant may repeat them, nor are the mantles of our “prophets” permitted to fall upon the shoulders of successors. These philosophers have looked with piercing gaze down, deep, very deep, into that well whose geographical position has never yet been indicated; and had it not been for an untoward breeze, passing through some subterranean passage, that raised ripples on the water, they had beheld TRUTH in full dress, and given us a lucid and succinct description of her mode of living, her manners, habits

and demeanor! They have gone far, far away, beyond the vulgar range of facts and natural causes, and gathered "*wisdom*" and "*experience*" in the wild and boundless deserts of unreal existences, and with the mystic fruits of such weary toil, have enriched our works to such an extent, that men of plain and sound mind will hereafter require a special revelation from the departed spirits of the authors to enable them to comprehend their "Archives." These poets! O thou far-darting one, thou god of the silver bow! how shall we estimate *their* works? or, in simple prose, find language to rehearse the wonders of their muse, and the laurels they have won for themselves and for our science! when, setting at defiance, both reason and rhyme, they dash forward with the wild fury of "*inspiration*" upon *feet* of *unequal* length, with limping gait and dislocated joints, in figures, moods and accidences of which the mind of rhetorician or philologist had never dreamed, and thus sung our "Anniversaries" in strains that should only have graced the *triumphs of their brothers* of the two former departments!

"But why should this be thought so odd?

Can't men have taste who cure a phthisic?

Of poetry tho' Patron-god,

Apollo patronises Physic."

In sight of all these things it is no easy task for the matter-of-fact medical student in the present day to find a safe path to our hill of science while the way is strewn with the "remains" of the above named fraternity to such an extent as to give it the character of medical fairy land;—a place full of imaginary fantastical creatures, by whose allurements and witcheries he is in constant danger of being led away from unreal things into darkness and delusion. But if, with Dr. Dudgeon's Lectures in his hand, as a guide book, he miss his way, we have neither sympathy or pity to bestow upon him; for it is to us one of the grandest features of this work, that it exposes the madness and the folly we have referred to, and that it guards all who embrace and study Homœopathy from becoming victims of the fancies of men of whom it must with justice be said, *a little learning hath made them mad*.

But we must conclude our remarks by allowing Dr. Dudgeon to speak for himself; and we are sure that in one page he can say more to commend himself than we could say in fifty. In the sixth

Lecture, he thus discourses upon that strange, fantastical, and, (excuse the word,) *filthy heresy*, called "ISOPATHY."

ISOPATHY.

"It is difficult to fix the antiquity of the doctrine of isopathy;* in one form or another it has existed almost as long as medicine has been practised as an art. If we search in the most ancient records of medicine we shall find traces of this system. Not to speak of the doctrine of signatures—which has already been alluded to when I spoke of the hints respecting homœopathy previous to Hahnemann,† to which indeed more than to isopathy that doctrine more properly belongs—we find numerous passages in the ancient authors countenancing the belief in a so-called isopathic principle of therapeutics.

"Thus the lungs of the fox were recommended for asthmatics by Dioscorides, Xenocrates, Galen, Serapion, Paulus Ægineta, and by many other writers, down indeed to the most modern times, for we find them still a favourite remedy for the like affection in the earlier editions of the *Pharmacopœia Londinensis*.

"Dioscorides and Paulus Ægineta allege that the roasted liver of a mad dog was one of the best remedies for its bite; and Xenocrates and the latter assert wolf's liver to be a useful hepatic remedy.

"The round worm in the human subject was best treated by roasted earth worms, according to Dioscorides; and the same author advised the brains of a cock to be given in hemorrhage from the meninges, whilst Galen says that the brains of a camel are a cure for epilepsy.

"The scorpion's sting was to be treated by the application of the dead scorpion to the wound, according to Haly Abbas, Celsus, and Paulus Ægineta, and this is the method of cure still adopted by the inhabitants of Morocco for the sting of that venomous insect, according to the testimony of recent travellers.

"The theriac of Andromachus, which contained the bodies of vipers as a chief ingredient, was almost universally employed by the ancients for the bite of venomous serpents.

"In my first lecture I adduced numerous other instances of the isopathic method of treatment, chiefly from the writings of Nicander and Xenocrates. Paracelsus also might be pressed into the service of isopathy, from some portions of his writings isolated from their context; but I showed in my first lecture that the passages which seem to countenance this doctrine have quite a different sense when read in connection with the rest of his writings. I showed,

* Isopathy properly means the treatment of diseases by their own exciting cause, *æqualia equalibus*, but, as will be seen, the term has been applied to a great variety of modes of treatment, distinguished chiefly for their absurdity, where the actual isopathic principle is completely lost sight of.

† See Lecture I.

however, that his disciple, Oswald Croll, believed and taught that the sound organs of certain animals were useful in the diseases of those organs in man, a doctrine that is not wanting in defenders among the homœopathic heretics distinguished for the eccentricity of their aberrations.

“Van Helmont hints, in his obscure way, that the morbid products of diseases should be employed for their cure, which we shall find to be exactly the doctrine of a certain class of those who have distinguished themselves of late years in the isopathic field.

“About two hundred years ago Dr. Durey* revived the treatment of hydrophobia recommended by Dioscorides, of giving the liver of the rabid animal to those bitten by it. Ten persons having been bitten by a mad wolf, and nine of these having died, the wolf was captured and killed, and its liver, after being washed with wine and dried in the oven, was given to the tenth person who had been bitten. He consumed the whole liver in three days, and remained free from the disease. This case of course proves nothing in favour of the prophylactic powers of the rabid creature's liver.

“Our celebrated countryman, Dr. Richard Mead, recommended about one hundred years ago the *arungia viperina*, which seems to have been prepared with viper's flesh, for the bites of these reptiles. He also speaks highly of the *volatile salts of vipers* as a remedy for their bites; this seems to have been merely some ammoniacal salt obtained from the viper, and was very likely not more efficacious than the *eau de luce* and other ammoniacal preparations that are still found to be very useful in the bites of venomous animals. Mead also advises scorpions' oil, that is oil in which scorpions have been infused, for the sting of that insect. Butler, who wrote fifty years before Mead, alludes to this and another pretended isopathic remedy in these lines:—

‘Tis true, a scorpion's oil is said
To cure the wounds the vermin made;
And weapons dressed with salve restore
And heal the hurts they gave before.’†

“From these few examples, and many more might be adduced had I thought it necessary to extend my researches relative to this subject, it will be evident that the doctrine of the cure of diseases of certain organs by the corresponding organs in other animals, and that of the cure of diseases by their own morbid products or supposed exciting causes, are, far from being a novelty, on the contrary of very ancient date.

“There is no doubt to whom belongs the honour of having introduced isopathic heresies into the homœopathic school. It was our transatlantic friend Dr. Constantine Hering who gave the first impulse to isopathy, for we find him in 1830‡ proposing as a remedy

* De stupendo et lugendo infortunio ex lupo rabiente, narratio verissima. De-vonise, 1671.

† Hudibras, Part iii. Cant. ii., 1. 1029.

‡ Arch., x. 2.

for hydrophobia the saliva of a rapid dog, as Xenocrates had done before him; for small-pox the matter from variolous pustules; for psora the matter of itch. Nay, he asks, may we not expect, if this doctrine be true, that we shall find the specific remedy for every epidemic pestilence in the first case of it that breaks out, and that the matter obtained from this one will serve to check the disease in all the rest? and this plan he actually proposes in a later paper. He recommends us to potentize the watery excrements of cholera, the black vomit of yellow fever, the desquamated skin of malignant scarlet fever, and to bind bags of milk-sugar in contact with the skin of typhus patients, and all these extraordinary medicines will serve as the remedies for these several diseases. In 1833 Dr. Hering wrote a long paper,* wherein he extols the efficacy of the prepared itch-matter, which he now calls *psorine*. He there declares this psorine to be equal to our very strongest medicines in power; that it has a great power of producing eruptions; that it is one of the most efficacious means for restoring the lost or weakened action of the skin; that it is the most important remedy in every form of scabies, and that it is a prophylactic against infection with itch. He found that a globule of the 30th dilution is the best dose to give, and that it is most expedient in every case, where possible, to give the patient psorine prepared from his own body, in other words what he calls *auto psorine*; of course this is only possible if the patient has the psoric eruption upon his person at the time. Under the head of psora, be it remembered, Dr. Hering included many varieties of cutaneous diseases. In his experiments and observations he discovered that the psorine, from whatever form of cutaneous eruption he obtained it, was always equally efficacious.

“He suggests that the seeds of plants potentized may possibly be the means of eradicating and destroying such plants, and that insects potentized may be capable of destroying the life of their own species; and then he exclaims what a blessing this discovery will prove to farmers in getting rid of weeds, and to housewives in freeing their houses and children from vermin. He does not mention how he supposes the potentized nettle-seeds are to be administered to those plants, and I must confess I would be sorely puzzled to give a dose of *pediculus* 30 to a louse, or *cimex* 30 to a bug. “First catch your hare,” writes Mrs. Glass, and “first catch your louse” would doubtless be Dr. Hering’s advice; but having caught our louse, I think it would be as superfluous an operation to give him the dose of his potentized relative, as it would be to put the salt on our sparrow’s tail after having ensnared him. Dr. Hering, rather hopelessly I imagine, begs all farmers and housewives who are inclined to try his method of extirpating weeds and killing vermin (which he gene-

* Arch., xiii. 3.

rously refuses to take out a patent for), to record the results of their experience in the journal wherein he makes these revelations.*

"He takes the opportunity to mention that a bug potentized up to the 30th dilution will cure bug-bites (which I do not in the least doubt, as I have observed them to be cured by much more insignificant means, viz., by nothing at all); he has moreover found that the bites of other insects are cured by similar means. We may from this discovery of Dr. Hering's be now enabled to guess at the uses of some of those wonderful substances in Dr. Hornbook's laboratory, inventoried by the poet Burns, such as—

‘Mite-horn shavings, filings, scrapings,
Distilled per se,
Sal-alkali o' midge-tail clippings
And mony mae.'

"Of course the first mentioned must have been employed on this isopathic principle of Drs. Hering and Dioscorides for the cure of the bites of the acarus tribe, one of which at least is said to be endemic in Scotland; and the last was beyond all question the isopathic specific for the deadly bite of the sanguinary midge or gnat.

"But greater discoveries are revealed in this wonder-disclosing essay of Dr. Hering's. He states that he has *ascertained* that the fluids and solids of healthy individuals (of course duly potentized) have a very powerful medicinal action on the human subject. No doubt the cannibalistic propensities of sundry aboriginal tribes is the instinctive perception of these medicinal properties of the human solids and fluids; and the "cold missionary on the side-board," prefigured by Sidney Smith as forming an essential part of a New Zealand banquet, doubtless served the guests the same purposes as our fashionable dinner-pill.

"In a subsequent communication, dated 1833,† Dr. Hering reiterates his assertion of the wonderful powers of potentized portions of the human body, and further states that these preparations act chiefly on the corresponding organs of the living human being.

"He again asserts that all morbid products, of whatever kind, exert a powerful influence on the diseases that produce them. He mentions leucorrhœal matter as being curative of leucorrhœa, gleet-matter of gleet, phthisine of phthisis, ascaridine of children's vermicular diseases. Still he admits that all these isopathic preparations cannot be regarded as absolute specifics, but only as chronic intermediate remedies, which serve, as it were, to stir up the disease, and render the reaction to the homœopathic remedy subsequently administered more permanent and effectual. This assertion he repeats in 1836,‡ and states that he has never succeeded in *curing* but only in *ameliorating* diseases with their own morbid products (with the exception of psora). Thus in a case of occult syphilis,

* Arch., xiii. 3, 37.

† Arch., xiv. 2, 99.

‡ Arch., xiv. 3, 146.

that would not come properly out, after having tried in vain mercury and other antivenereal remedies, he gave syphiline, whereupon a cutaneous eruption appeared, and afterwards a regular chancre, which was perfectly cured by mercury and lachesis.

"In the *North American Homœopathic Journal* for November, 1852, Dr. Hering again writes at considerable length in defence of the so-called isopathic preparations. He entitles his paper "the chemical rescue of psorinum." I hoped to have found something in this paper justifying on chemical principles the employment of psorine, but was disappointed to find that the only decided thing on the subject is this: he states, namely, that when the alcoholic solution of the pus out of itch pustules is placed on a watch-glass and allowed to evaporate, small needle-shaped transparent crystals of a cooling pungent taste are left. This salt he believes to be the cause of the morbid effects of psorine; and though he did not analyse it, he believes that it is some combination of sulpho-cyanogen and he states his intention on some future occasion to ascertain exactly its chemical composition, to manufacture it in the laboratory, and then prove it, when he expects to get similar results to those obtained from the provings of the natural morbid product.* This is all very vague and unsatisfactory, but what makes it worse is, that we are not satisfied from Dr. Hering's statement that the morbid product he obtained was actually what he asserts it to be, viz., the secretion from scabies. He got the matter, he tells us, from some full large yellow pustules, on the fingers, hands, and forearms of a young and otherwise healthy negro, in whom these pustules had been produced by handling some stuff from Germany. He is unable to state whether the characteristic acari were present or no. Now, it is very improbable from this account that the disease of this negro was true itch, for, as far as we know, itch is always propagated by contact with an itchy person, and its eruption, when not altered by art, is a small vesicular not a large pustular one. The circumstance of having obtained a salt as here described proves nothing, for all animal secretions contain salt of some kind or other; and even had Dr. Hering demonstrated that the salt was a compound as sulpho-cyanogen, that again would have proved nothing, as we know that a similar compound exists in several healthy as well as some morbid secretions. Dr. Hering goes on in this paper to give an explanation of the supposed mode of action of morbid products, which he calls *nosodes*. For fear of mutilation, by attempting to abridge it, I shall quote it entire. 'Every disorder,' he says, 'is necessarily accompanied by chemical change in the body. We see that it is so at least, in all those cases which we can investigate, and

* Twenty years previously (Arch., xiii. 3, 65,) he informed us that the chemical analysis of psorine was a desideratum, and that he had not then succeeded in ascertaining its precise composition; so that it does not appear that "the chemical rescue" of this curious medicine is much further advanced now than it was then.

we think it reasonable to conclude that it is always so. The same phenomenon now appears as when a bar of steel is magnetised, or electricity is excited by friction or otherwise; when one end of the bar is magnetised, the other is found so too, but opposite in quality; if one end is north the other will be south, and *vice versâ*. Positive electricity excites the negative, etc. I have always observed the same thing in disease. If the external skin is alkaline, the mucous membranes will be found acid, and *vice versâ*. If this is not the case with these surfaces it will be found so with other organs; and if the affection does not appear in the shape of acidity and alkalinity, it takes some other form. But the products of the separate poles mutually neutralize each other. When a disease arises in one organ, the opposite or neutralizing state is excited in another. Up to this time these *nosodes* have only been so far employed as they were soluble in alcohol, that is, only the soluble parts, the salts; they have also been always administered internally, although they appear externally. When the external product acts to neutralize the internal, it may in many cases be the chemical antidote. One follows the other. The existence of both constitutes the disease; the removal of one removes the other, and may also remove the disease. The jars are discharged by the connecting rod, the external is admitted into the interior, and the equilibrium is restored.' This is all the promised explanation, or law of the action of the *nosodes* in curing diseases. It is, as must be plain to you all, merely a vague conjecture, and by no means a happy one; for in the chemical and electrical phenomena he has put forward as analogies, there is always some proportion between the amount of the acid and the alkali, of the positive and the negative electricity; there is, however, none betwixt the 30th dilution (that usually administered by Dr. Hering) and the deranged secretion it is to restore. The remark as to the opposite character of the secretions of different parts in disease is certainly of importance if confirmed, but we should like to know the facts that have led Dr. Hering to this conclusion.

"Gross, whose homœopathic career has been distinguished by a marked propensity for novelty-hunting, seems to have become at once deeply enamoured of the isopathetic theory. He says* the *simile* is not exactly the right thing, and that for some time he has been convinced that *æqualia æqualibus* or the isopathetic principle is the correct one, and that *similia similibus* or the homœopathic principle is only a makeshift or indifferent apology for the other. Gross's isopathy consists mainly in giving vaccinine in natural small-pox, and in recommending it as a prophylactic against the small-pox in place of cow-pox inoculation. He also recounts how that one day, having inflicted on himself a small wound, the idea occurred to him to potentize his blood. He accordingly proceeded to do this in the

* All. h. Ztg., 2 No. 9.

following manner. He moistened a globule with his blood, and put it into a bottle with 10,000 other globules, and shook all together for a quarter of an hour. One of these globules he then added to 10,000 fresh globules, and likewise shook them together energetically for a quarter of an hour. A globule of this second bottle he administered to a lady who suffered from congestions to the head and chest, and it had the effect of curing her. The same curative result he obtained from this medicine in the case of a young man troubled with hæmoptysis, with similar symptoms of congestion to the head and chest.

“Dr. Gross is not the originator of this sanguinary medication. Previous to this, a certain (or rather uncertain) Mr. K. detailed in one of the homœopathic journals how he too had potentized his own blood, and found that it had a direct action on the circulation, and was useful when administered by olfaction in plethoric states and in metrorrhagias; and about the same time another anonymous individual pledges his anonymous veracity that he had seen good effects from blood in two cases of great congestion of blood to the head, with oppression of the chest.

“These few instances are, however, the first appearances of human blood as a medicinal agent in our homœopathic literature; its last appearance is of very recent date, as you shall hereafter hear. Elsewhere it has to my knowledge only been recommended for the purpose of transfusion into the veins of anemic individuals; but the blood of various animals was a favorite prescription of ancient medical men, and we learn from Galen that it was prescribed after what we might consider a homœopathic or isopathic fashion. Thus he says the blood of common pigeons, wood-pigeons, and turtle-doves is recommended to be injected into the eyes to remove extravasated blood caused by a blow. He further alleges that the blood of domestic fowls stops hemorrhages of the membranes of the brain, and that the blood of kids mingled with vinegar cures hæmoptysis. We have seen that a similar employment of blood was recommended by Xenocrates of Aphrodisias, who in addition employed menstrual blood as a remedial agent. Different kinds of blood were employed by the ancients for other affections; but it was reserved for homœopaths to devise the ingenious project of employing healthy human blood as a therapeutic agent.

“The plan of preparing and administering the morbid products of diseases, thus happily initiated under the auspices of Drs. Hering and Gross, was not long of finding a champion to systematize the practice. A certain Herr Lux, a veterinary surgeon in Leipzig, published in 1833 a work entitled *The Isopathy of Contagions*, in which he enunciates the following propositions:—‘All infectious diseases contain in their infectious matters the remedies capable of curing themselves.’ The principle upon which these remedial agents

act he contends to be *æqualia æqualibus*, and the system he denominates *Isopathy*. Examples of this isopathic principle he asserts are presented by the well-known facts of the cure of frost-bites by snow, of burns by heat, and the restoration of frozen apples by sousing them in ice-cold water. For the cure of malignant pustule in cattle he recommends a drop of the matter of the pustule to be potentized to the 30th dilution, and a globule of this to be administered; for the rot he advises a drop of the nasal mucus to be treated in the same way, and the same dose given. He cites as further proofs of the correctness of his views the preservative power of the inoculation of cattle with the nasal mucus of animals affected with the rot, and the prophylactic effects of the inoculation of the matter of the plague-bubo against that pestilence. He advises that every species of contagium should be potentized and preserved for use in its respective disease, for, says he, unless it be potentized it is of no use. Among the contagious matters he enumerates are the sheep-pox, the cow-pox, the grease of cattle and horses, the itch of men, the matter of malignant pustule, the pus of chancres, the contagious matter of hydrophobia contained in the vesicle of Marochetti, the lymph of the plague-bubo, even the contagium of cholera (if we can find it—I need scarcely remark that it has not yet been discovered; indeed Lux admits that it has not yet been found, but says that its discovery is the province of those who are experienced in the observation of pestilential diseases). He states that the cachectic states caused by the abuse of sulphur, mercury, and cinchona bark are best cured by means of sulphur, mercury, and bark; and finally he cites Hering's experiments with psorine in proof of his doctrine. As is usual with persons who once mount a hobby, Herr Lux rides his to death, and not content with potentizing the contagious matters of really contagious maladies, he goes the length of advising the same thing to be done with all the secretions and excretions of men and animals. His advice being asked for the cure of a lap-dog which had a nasty propensity to eat the human fæces it found by the wayside—and indeed in Leipzig or any other German town it would have plenty of opportunity to indulge its depraved tastes, for the worthy Germans have rather a fashion of relieving themselves *à la belle étoile*—Lux naturally proceeded to potentize some human fæces and solemnly administered it—in place of a sound whipping—to the nasty cur, with what result we are left to guess. This delicate preparation he denominated *humanine*. He likewise potentized vesic calculi, the matter of glanders, the foetid sweat of the feet, the saliva of epileptics, and many other similar singular substances. Some of his disciples went to still greater extravagances. I remember meeting an enthusiastic isopathist in Germany who carried about with him a pocket-case filled with every possible excretion from men and animals, healthy and

diseased, and not only with such, but other kingdoms of nature were ransacked to furnish the so-called isopathic preparations. Thus he had a medicament entitled *tonitru*—a thunderbolt—which excited my astonishment. I requested to be informed how he had obtained such a formidable medicine, and he informed me that when a flash of lightning struck a stone building it produced a sort of vitrification of the stone; a grain of this was carefully scraped off and potentized as usual up to 30, and this preparation was supposed to contain the healing virtues of the thunderbolt, an excellent remedy, he assured me, in contusions resulting from violent blows; for, he complacently observed, a thunderbolt gives the most violent blow of anything in nature—a fact I readily assented to.

“On the appearance of this book of Master Lux’s, Dr. Hering, the original suggester of the heresy, wrote a counterblast against poor Lux, and contended that in all these remedial means there was no question of a deviation from the homœopathic principle; that this was still homœopathy and not isopathy, and that the most that could be said was that the curative agent was a *simillimum*, but certainly not an *æquale* or *idem*.

“The isopathic diversion originated, or I should rather say raked up from the dust and rubbish of antiquity by Hering, encouraged by Gross and systematized by Lux, after exciting a good deal of attention amongst the homœopathic body, partially approved of by some, altogether condemned by others, as I have shown, seems to have gradually died a natural death after being a nine days’ wonder, and with the exception of an occasional record of the administration of a dose of psorine, vaccinine, varioline, anthracine, or ozœnine, we hear little or nothing more about it in homœopathic literature for a long time, its most zealous supporters (all except Dr. Hering, who has from time to time made spasmodic efforts to resuscitate it) seeming to have tacitly united to give the subject swift burial out of sight.

“I must also exclude entirely from having any claim to isopathic practice the proposal of Hering and others to give the morbid products of non contagious diseases and the morbid matters excreted by some contagious diseases, which do not, however, contain the contagious principle of the disease; for it is self-evident and has been proved by numerous experiments that these matters are not capable of producing the disease in healthy individuals. The stools and vomited matters of cholera patients, the black vomit of yellow fever, the buboes of plague, are among the morbid products of contagious diseases, of which we have not the slightest evidence that they are capable of producing the diseases whence they are derived. The matter of leucorrhœa, the ichor of carious bones, the sputa of phthisical patients, the pus from various ulcers, the scrapings of erysipelatous parts, and so forth, are quite incapable of propagating

their respective diseases, and having no pathogenetic can also have no therapeutic powers. All these and the like must therefore be removed entirely out of consideration, as they do not bear out the isopathic doctrine, and there is no evidence that their ingestion is of the slightest use; rather does their use seem to be the offspring of a prurient imagination or a most perverted pathological creed, and let it be said to the credit of the good sense of homœopathists that their use has never extended beyond a few whimsical and fantastic individuals, and the sooner they are consigned to the limbo of forgotten things the better; none will regret their absence from our *Materia Medica*.

"The isopathic heresy, with its innumerable divergences and extravagances, has brought no small amount of ridicule upon homœopathy, and has been eagerly seized on by some of our opponents as a proper mark for their wit and satire. But in truth examples of isopathic treatment are not wanting in the records of allopathic medicine, and even in our own day we have witnessed the administration of isopathic remedies by distinguished men in the ranks of our opponents. Thus ox-gall pills were lately a fashionable remedy in bilious derangements; urea was given by Fouquier and Lænnec, in doses of two scruples at a time, as a diuretic in dropsy—with the greatest success, it is asserted; and it is a very common and effectual mode of curing drunkenness in Sweden, to compel the subject of this vice to eat and drink everything mixed with spirits, whereby he soon gets sickened for ever of his once favorite beverage.

"The disgusting character of many of the preparations introduced into our *Materia Medica* by the isopathists has been particularly held up to public condemnation by our adversaries, but it should be remembered that in times gone by preparations of the same nature were in great reputation as remedial agents, and some of the foulest of them were retained in the allopathic dispensaries until a very recent period. A few of these may be mentioned as specimens. Dioscorides, Galen, Paulus, Ægineta, and others, make mention of various excrementitious matters useful for the cure of diseases, among which we find the dung of dogs, children, wolves, sheep, oxen, pigeons, fowls, storks, mice, starlings, and crocodiles; the urine of men, boys, mules, goats, and camels; again we find such delectable remedies prescribed by the wisdom of our ancestors as bugs, lizards, earth worms, locusts, serpents' slough, the blood of various animals, spider's web, soot, burnt hair, sweat, etc., and these delicacies were given in palpable quantities with their full natural flavor attached to them, not frittered away by infinitesimal dilution into the colorless and insipid preparations of our modern isopathists.

"Nor are such delicate preparations confined to the remote antiquity of physic, for, as Professor Henderson has pointed out

in his recent defence of homœopathy against Professor Simpson's labored attack,* that eminent physician Hoffmann has stamped with the seal of his approbation a number of filthy preparations, if possible exceeding in their disgustingly repulsive character any of those enumerated above. If, then, our opponents will insist on raking up the infinitesimal dirt that some unacknowledged, self-styled homœopaths have chosen to introduce into our previously *pure* *Materia Medica*, we are prepared to meet them on their own terms, and we need but to stir up the great dunghill of their own *Materia Medica* to raise a stench under their nostrils that shall for ever make them repent of having begun the combat with such foul weapons."

The following excellent clinical paper on OPTHALMIA, read in May last, by Dr. HENRIQUES, before the British Hahnemannian Society, is well worthy of the careful attention of the profession; we copy it from the July number of the British Journal.

The apparatus of vision is usually divided by anatomists into the orbits, the facial and orbital appendages, and the globe of the eye. In virtue of the structural differences of these important parts, the eye, as you will readily understand from its almost incessant activity, and its naturally exposed situation, is subject to a great variety of diseases, the pathology and treatment of which has constituted from a very remote period of antiquity, till this day, a separate, special, and highly important branch of the healing art. I purpose to night to demonstrate the efficiency of the homœopathic treatment, in that most common, ever varying, extremely dangerous, and oftentimes rebellious class, that has received the generic name of ophthalmia, or inflammatory diseases of the eye. Like every other part of the organism, the organ of vision may become the seat of preternatural redness, increased heat, swelling and pain, arising from almost innumerable direct or indirect causes: these phenomena are the primary characteristic symptoms of the first stage of an inflammatory attack. Should they not spontaneously subside, or gradually diminish through the means employed for their cure, the inflammation will go on increasing with greater or less rapidity, till the tissue inflamed ultimately sets up one or other of the following morbid processes, namely, effusion, adhesion, suppuration, ulceration, mortification, granulation, or cicatrization. It is familiar knowledge that the part inflamed may pass through several of these states in succession—or several of them may co-exist—and that the functions of the eye may be completely or incompletely destroyed by them.

* Homœopathy Fairly Represented, p. 168.

The physical and vital properties peculiar to each of the textures composing the organ of vision, peculiarities of temperament, constitutional predispositions, and certain artificial states of the constitution, are the principal circumstances which modify the inflammatory affections of the eye, and upon which we must mainly establish their diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment.

The relations of the eye to the surrounding structures of the nostril, the frontal, maxillary, and sphenoid sinuses, and the cranium, produce in inflammatory affections of the eye, innumerable combinations of morbid phenomena, which we must accurately analyze, and justly estimate, in order to arrive at a correct method of treatment.

Ophthalmia is seldom or never confined to one texture of the eye: if not speedily arrested, the inflammation is soon propagated by the influence of local sympathy, or contiguity of surface, to several other textures, and thus sometimes the whole organ may become involved. It is also seldom confined to one eye; if one should at first be attacked, the other soon becomes affected also—sometimes simultaneously, sometimes successively.

In the examination of inflammatory diseases of the eye, it is necessary to consider four things.

1st, the tissue affected; 2nd, the peculiar nature of the affection; 3rd, the local and general symptoms; and 4th, the stage of the attack.

The conjunctiva, sclerotica, cornea, iris, crystalline capsule and retina, may be the primary seat of the attack, and each will produce different groups of phenomena, or separate series of the modifications of the inflammatory action; and hence our method of treatment will vary according to the tissue affected. Oculists have consequently based a classification of ophthalmia according to the differences of texture, which they have denominated as follows:—

1st, Conjunctivitis; 2nd, scleritis; 3rd, corneitis; 4th, iritis; 5th, crystallinitis; 6th, aquo-capsulitis; 7th, retinitis.

By conjunctivitis is meant an inflammation of that mucocutaneous membrane, which lines the internal surface of the eyelids, covers the anterior third of the eyeball, forms the valvula semilunaris, invests the cornea, the excretory ducts of the lachrymal gland, the caruncula lachrymalis, and Meibomian follicles; then enters the puncta, leaves the lachrymal sac, and at the nasal extremity of the duct, is continuous with the common mucous membrane of the nostrils, fauces and alimentary canal. Like the other parts of the mucous system, the conjunctiva is subject to inflammation of a puromucous, blenorrhoeal, or catarrhal character, to eruptions and ulcerations. The distinguishing characteristics of this kind of inflammation, are the scarlet red, and tortuous condition of the vessels of the conjunctiva, which by anastomosing freely with each other, form a sort of shifting net work over the white of the eye.

Pathologists admit four distinct kinds of conjunctivitis, viz.—

1st, The catarrhal; 2nd, the contagious or Egyptian; 3rd, ophthalmia of new born children; 4th, the gonorrhœal.

The following is an example of the catarrhal.

Sarah Adams, aged twenty-five, a strong, healthy looking woman, having never previously suffered with inflamed eyes, consulted me on the 20th of March, and stated that for two days before, she had been troubled with an intolerable dryness and itching in both eyes, which she attributed to the presence of some foreign substances. On examination I could not detect any extraneous body, but there was chemosis, redness, copious secretion of an opaque, thick, and puriform matter, from the conjunctiva and Meibomian follicles, the eyelids were very much inflamed, and bound together during the night: the cornea was perfectly transparent, and the sclerotica remained unaltered. She complained of heat of the skin, frontal cephalalgia, and intolerance of light. She was ordered one-third dilution of Tr. Aconite, in four doses, one to be taken every four hours. The following day the patient felt great relief; the chemosis, redness and secretion, were much diminished, and the heat of the skin was quite gone. I then ordered Nux vomica, five-twelfths in six doses, one to be taken every four hours, and on the twenty-fifth the patient was discharged perfectly cured.

This was a case of simple catarrhal ophthalmia. Of all the ophthalmiæ, this affection is the most common; and some persons are particularly subject to such attacks, periodically returning every three or four months: the exciting causes are sudden changes of temperature, and exposure to cold and wet. Its treatment in general is very simple, and when our remedies are promptly and judiciously selected, the affection is always cured in three to five days; but if it be neglected, or treated with improper local applications, it will cause a great deal of constitutional and local disturbance. In these cases it frequently happens that the conjunctiva of the superior palpebra becomes sarcomatous and rugged, and by friction in this state against the cornea, it eventually destroys the transparency of the cornea. This patient having applied for advice at the commencement, she was cured in five days, by means of Aconite and Nux vomica, rest and spare diet; compresses of tepid water were applied locally, from which she experienced great relief. I sometimes apply cold water; with some patients cold is far more grateful than warm water; this depends however entirely upon the idiosyncrasy of individuals. It is our duty therefore, to consult the feelings of the patients and adopt that which is most agreeable to them.

Aconite, Chamomilla, Pulsatilla, and Nux vomica, are the remedies which have proved most successful in my practice.

The next case I shall call your attention to, is that of purulent ophthalmia in an infant, complicated with whooping cough.

Infants are frequently born with, or soon after birth, are subject to, a puro-mucous inflammation of the conjunctiva, which has been denominated ophthalmia neonatorum. This affection is attributed by Mackenzie and others, to the inoculation of the conjunctiva by leucorrhœal fluid during parturition. This, in my opinion, is a purely hypothesis. It appears to me to arise entirely from premature exposure to too strong a light, to draughts of air, or to the heat of a fierce fire, near which nurses are in the habit of sitting with the infant in their lap, for hours after birth, and sometimes it may be traced to constitutional causes.

Robert Ireland, an infant, thirty days old, was brought to the Hahnemann Hospital, on 4th November, with purulent ophthalmia of both eyes. The mother who was a strong healthy looking woman, and was never affected with leucorrhœa, stated, that the infant has been suffering ever since his birth, with inflammation and purulent discharge from both eyes. About seven days ago he was seized with whooping cough, for which she had given him several doses of castor oil. The child was of a delicate frame, and feeble constitution; has frequent and violent paroxysms of convulsive cough during the day, as well as at night, with wheezing, great anguish, and face injected of a bluish hue during the attacks; the conjunctiva is very red; the eyelids are extremely vascular, considerably swollen, and glued together every morning; there is copious secretion of a yellowish purulent matter: with the exception of a slight haziness of the cornea, the transparent part of the eye is not affected.

He was ordered to take Ipecacuanha and Spongia, three-twelfths of each to be dissolved in twelve teaspoonfuls of water; one teaspoonful to be taken every second hour, alternately; the eyes to be injected every two hours, with cold water.

On the eleventh the cough was all but gone, but there was little or no alteration in the ophthalmic affection. I then ordered Sulphur and Calc. carb. two-thirtieths, to be taken dry on his tongue, alternately every fifth day; at the end of two months with these two remedies, the ophthalmia was completely cured, and the child became fat and healthy.

After hearing the history of this little patient, and before cleansing and examining the eyes, I was apprehensive that vision was entirely destroyed; for it is very rare that this disease lasts as long as thirty days, without disorganizing the structures; but to my joy, and great astonishment, I was agreeably disappointed, in only detecting a slight opacity of the cornea, which rapidly disappeared under treatment.

The purulent ophthalmia of infants, is always a dangerous affection, requiring prompt medical means; for it runs its course frequently in so very rapid a manner, as to destroy vision in a few days. It usually begins about the third day after birth, when the

eyelids of the infant are observed sticking together, and swollen, from which ooze some drops of purulent matter when they are opened, and the mucous surface is extremely vascular. At this first stage it is generally very easy to arrest the progress of the disease, but if neglected or mismanaged, as is frequently the case, the conjunctiva becomes more and more swollen, the purulent discharge increases, and the lids assume a dark red appearance: this is the second stage, and usually lasts from eight to ten days, without affecting the transparent tissues. The third stage is that in which we find the cornea hazy, infiltrated with pus, ulcerated, or completely destroyed, with the iris and humours protruding.

Our prognosis must be based upon the state of the organ; when therefore we are consulted, our first business is to remove the purulent discharge, and examine the globe of the eyes carefully. In the two first stages our prognosis may be favorable, for then the corneæ are intact, and the disease is generally under the control of judicious treatment; but in the third stage we must promise nothing; for vision may be impaired, or totally lost, from the disorganization which sooner or later takes place in the cornea, the consequent protrusion of the iris and humours, and ultimate irremediable loss of sight. The remedies you will find most useful in the first stage, when it does not originate from syphilitic contagion, are, Aconite, Calcarea carb. and Sulphur. Aconite is indicated especially at the very onset of the disease, when the child is only irritable and sleepless, with a hot dry skin, slight redness and tumefaction of the lower lids, and little or no discharge during the day. The eyes must also be syringed repeatedly, with a lotion composed of equal parts of rose water, and the mucilage of quince seeds, especially at nights, when it ought to be done every two hours; for it is during the night the secretion becomes more copious, concretes on the internal surface of the lids, and irritates the corneæ. Although existing thirty days, contrary to the usual march of the affection, there were no organic changes of the transparent tissues in the case under consideration; indeed it might be said to be in the first stage. Calcarea carb. and Sulph., were therefore administered alternately, and with such decided advantage, that in two months the infant was cured without leaving the slightest trace of the ophthalmia, and the constitution very much improved.

When the purulent ophthalmia of infants can be traced to syphilitic contagion, which we must never neglect to inquire into, the specific remedy, Mercurius, must be administered immediately, and the eyes, in the manner and by the means previously suggested, must be frequently cleansed of the purulent discharge.

The other remedies that you will find most suitable to the species of ophthalmia, in its first and second stages, are, Chamomilla, followed by Belladonna, and Nux vomica, Pulsatilla, Bryonia, Calcarea carb., and Sulphur.

When there is ulceration of the cornea, you must apply the extract of Belladonna, diluted with some white ointment, as a means of preventing protusion of the iris; and the remedies you will find most efficacious are, Arsenicum, Calcareo carbonica, Silicea, and Sulphur.

When specks or opacity of the cornea exist, the principal remedies are, Cannabis, Euphrasia, Carbo veget., Cina, Senega, and Nitric acid.

Should Hypopium exist, either alone or in conjunction with either of the previous morbid alterations of structure, Hepar sulph. and Silicea will be more especially indicated.

The two following cases are examples of what is called strumocatarrrhal ophthalmia; a disease which implies inflammation of the conjunctiva, complicated with scrofulous diathesis or dyscrasia. This species of ophthalmia usually attacks children from the time of weaning till ten years of age, and its distinguishing characteristics are, a slight degree of redness, great intolerance of light, small pustules on the conjunctiva, and specks on the cornea, resulting from these pustules.

Two sisters, Mary and Juliet Kelleven, the former nine and the latter seven years of age, came to consult me on 25th January. Mary has been suffering with ophthalmia of both eyes since May last, Juliet has been affected in both eyes also, but it is only two months ago since she began to complain. They are of the lymphatic temperament, but they are plump and healthy looking children. With the exception of the uneasiness arising from the inflammatory state of the eye, they state that they feel themselves perfectly well. In both cases, the intolerance of light is very acute—granular conjunctiva—the redness of the conjunctiva is considerable; its palpebral portion is also very much thickened, and there is copious secretion of muco-purulent matter. Slight opacity of the cornea; tumefaction and tenderness of the cervical glands. The only difference between the affection of these two persons was in the intensity of the inflammatory action, which was greater in Juliet's case.

Belladonna two-thirds in four ounces of water was ordered, a tablespoonful to be given to each every four hours.

On the 27th, the acute inflammatory state had subsided, but the photophobia was still considerable; they were therefore ordered Calcareo carbonica five-twelfths in six doses, one night and morning.

On the 31st, the redness of the conjunctiva was very much less, but the secretion from the Meibomian follicles is the same, the eyelids being very much glued together every morning, and there is still considerable photophobia. Sulphur was ordered five-twelfths to be mixed in six doses, one to be taken twice a day.

Both these patients continued taking alternately Calcareo carb. and Sulph. for nearly seven weeks with decided advantage, for on

7th March, Juliet was quite well, and Mary, although better, is not quite as well as her sister. After a suspension of all remedies for a fortnight, these patients began again with the Sulphur and Calcareo, which they continued taking alternately in the same manner as previously, for three weeks, at the expiration of which time they were discharged cured. The conjunctiva of the inferior palpebra, however, in the case of Juliet, being still somewhat thicker than it ought to be, and in both patients the eyelids being still occasionally glued together, for which a prolonged sojourn at the sea-side or in the country was recommended, which would also improve the general tone of the organism, and so prevent a relapse.

A cartarrhal ophthalmia occurring in a scrofulous constitution is a compound affection called the strumo-catarrhal, which is of frequent occurrence, and of all the ophthalmias there is none more difficult to be cured. The treatment in these cases must consist of the remedies suitable to each of the morbid conditions of which the disease is composed. Thus our first care must be to subdue the inflammatory state by the remedies especially recommended for ordinary conjunctivitis, and when this object has been accomplished, our next duty is to combat the strumous constitution by such remedies as I shall hereafter recommend when treating of the scrofulous ophthalmia. For the present it suffices to observe, that I know of no remedies more useful in curing every kind of strumous affections than Sulphur and Calcareo, repeated for a long time, at longer or shorter intervals, according to the urgency of the case. Their good effects are amply testified by the foregoing cases.

The distinguishing characteristics of scrofulous ophthalmia are—1st. Slight redness of the conjunctiva and sclerotica. 2nd. Pain more or less intense, particularly at night. 3rd. Photophobia or intolerance of light. 4th. Epiphora, or gushes of tears. 5. Blepharospasmus, or spasms of the orbicularis palpebrarum. This kind of ophthalmia is often the first manifestation of a strumous dyscrasia, and it is of such frequent occurrence that Beer and Mackenzie assert, that out of the one hundred, ninety cases of inflammation of the eyes in young subjects are of this kind.

The first case of strumous ophthalmia is that of Emily Cadman, twelve years of age, who has had bad eyes ever since she was three years of age. This girl is of a delicate, spare habit, with blue eyes, and enlarged cervical glands. She complains of a sensation of intolerable glare and dazzling, with itchings, and a feeling of sand in the eyes. The redness of the eyes was not very great, but there were several spots of opacity on the cornea; the eyelids were rugged and swollen; inability to face the light; tears constantly flowing; and a few red vessels were observed running over the sclerotica. I first ordered her Aconite, after which she took successively Belladonna, Calcareo carb., Euphrasia, Sulphur and Silicea, and was discharged cured in ten weeks, without any outward application.

The next case is that of Isaac Robinson, nine years of age, who stated that when he was two years old, he had an attack of scarlet fever, of which he recovered; but ever since he has had inflammation of the eyes, for which he has been attended allopathically several times, by different practitioners, but had not received any permanent benefit. This patient, of unquestionable scrofulous diathesis, had enlargement of the cervical and mesenteric glands, and was subject to diarrhœa. Both eyes were slightly inflamed, but the intolerance of light was considerable. There were no ulcers, but the opacity of the corneæ was so great that he could scarcely distinguish objects or colors; there were several red vessels running over the sclerotica, and the inferior palpebræ were granular, and very much thickened inside; little or no appetite; restlessness at nights, and is extremely irritable. This patient first took Belladonna, after which he took alternately Calcarea carb., Sulphur and Baryta carbonica, for six months; leaving a week's interval between each remedy, and at the end of this time he was discharged cured.

There is nothing that is either very remarkable or unusual in the foregoing cases, but they are interesting in demonstrating the efficiency of the homœopathic practice in a class of diseases which certainly do not originate in the imagination, and relative to the diagnosis of which no doubt can exist. The first was nine years standing, and was cured in ten weeks; the second was only seven years standing, but it required six months' treatment before the patient was completely restored to health. The reason of this difference was in the complication of the ophthalmia with diseased cervical and mesenteric glands—diseases, the cure of which is at all times tedious and protracted even when they exist alone.

Aconite, Belladonna, Calcarea carb., Euphrasia, Sulphur and Silicea, were the remedies employed in the case of Emily Cadman. And Belladonna, Calcarea, Sulphur, and Baryta carbonica, were the remedies administered in the case of Isaac Robinson.

In the ordinary cases of scrofulous ophthalmia, I consider Belladonna, Calcarea carb., and Sulphur, the chief remedies; but they require to be repeated once or twice a week alternately, till some sensible amelioration takes place, when it will be advisable to discontinue their use till the improvement ceases, and then recommence the same course. A great number of remedies have been employed, and recommended by authors, in this affection, but I know of none so efficacious and certain in their effects, as the three I have previously indicated.

The most distressing symptoms in this affection are photophobia and ophthalmospasmus. Should Belladonna, Calcarea and Sulphur fail to modify immediately the photophobia, you might give with advantage, as intercurrent remedies, Arsenicum, Aconite, Cina, Conium, Ignatia, Phosphorus, Mercurius, and Staphisagria, accord-

ing to their symptomatic indications. For the same reason, and in the same manner, Chamomilla, Hyoscyamus, and Stramonium, may prove beneficial against the ophthalmospasmus. But, however judicious the selection of remedial agents may be, you will never succeed in curing strumous ophthalmia unless you pay particular attention at the same time to the mode of living of your patient, and make him adopt, conformably to his means, an appropriate hygienic plan; for there is no doubt, that a vast amount of this affection is the result of improper diet, want of air and exercise, uncleanness, unsalubrious habitations, and insufficient clothing. The basis of the hygienic plan consists in, 1st, let your patient be well clothed from head to foot—he should wear flannel next his skin covering his chest, arm-pits, and abdomen completely; 2nd, if he inhabits an insalubrious locality, it must be changed, but if this cannot be altered, he must live as much as possible in our public parks and fields; 3rd, he should be bathed daily in tepid water on rising every morning for five minutes; and 4th, plain but nutritious food.

The next case I shall relate to you is one of traumatic ophthalmia. John Martin, aged thirty-eight, consulted me as an out-patient at the Hahnemann Hospital, and stated that he has been suffering with ophthalmia of the left eye for eleven years, caused by a blow. It occasionally subsides, but he is never free from redness, photophobia, pain and lachrymation. Vision in the affected organ very imperfect. He has been repeatedly bled, leeches, cupped, blistered, and mercurialised, without any permanent relief. Has been attended till now, for three months, by Dr. Quain, of the North London Hospital. This patient is thin, pale-faced, of a nervous temperament, and scrofulous disposition. The characteristic symptoms present were, scarlet redness of the left eye; extreme intolerance of light; lids very red and swollen; shooting and sharp pricking pains in the globe of the eye; profuse and constant lachrymation, with pressive pains extending from the ocular region to the whole left side of the cranium; opacity and ulceration of the cornea in the axis of vision; diseased eye is smaller than the other; indistinct vision of objects; pupils discolored and contracted; loss of transparency of the humours; and granular lids.

John Martin attended the hospital as an out-patient for twelve months, at the end of which time he was discharged perfectly cured. The remedies employed during the treatment were Arnica, Mercurius, Euphrasia, Conium, Ignatia, Cannabis, Hyoscyamus, Sulphur, Calcarea, and Arsenicum.

Traumatic ophthalmia designates all those inflammatory affections of the eyes, that arise from mechanical or chemical injury. This species of ophthalmia is always extremely dangerous, very obstinate, and unless properly treated at the commencement it leads sooner or

later to cataract, glaucoma or amaurosis, and consequently the loss of vision. One, many or all the textures of the eye may suffer in traumatic inflammation, hence you must be prepared to meet with a great variety of symptoms corresponding with the kind of tissue affected especially, in any given case.

It not unfrequently happens, that complete disorganization of the interior textures of the organ occurs after an apparently trifling and superficial injury. When called to a case of traumatic ophthalmia, therefore, we must ever be mindful of these probable effects; and although we may not detect any present mischief, we should always adopt such prophylactic means as experience teaches us to be most efficacious in preventing these formidable consequences. We ought, therefore, from the moment of an injury to the eye, however insignificant it may at first sight appear, to enjoin absolute rest, and a spare diet for twenty-four hours. Bathe the injured organ frequently with Arnica lotion, and give internally some doses of the same remedy. If at the expiration of this time, there is neither pain, redness, nor swelling of the eye, it will be advisable to give a dose of *Nux vomica*, as a means of relieving the organ from internal congestion. If, on the contrary, the patient complains of circumorbital pains, and there exist the slightest traces of inflammation or congestion, we must not hesitate to apply *Belladonna* around the orbits; let him be placed in a dark room, enjoin absolute rest and diet, and give *Belladonna* internally, or such other remedy as may be most suitable to the case; continuing the treatment till every marked symptom has disappeared.

The sclerotic, like the conjunctiva, may be the primary seat of inflammation. The sclerotic is a strong, opaque, fibrous membrane, extending from the optic nerve to the cornea, which preserves the globular figure of the eye, defends the soft internal structures, and gives insertion to the ocular muscles. This tissue frequently becomes the seat of inflammation, from exposure to atmospherical influences, and is called *sclerotitis*, or *rheumatic ophthalmia*. It has been observed that children are not subject to it, and that it prevails more frequently when there is a cold north-easterly wind. It is distinguished from *conjunctivitis*:—

1st. By the primary seat of the inflammatory action being in the sclerotica.

2nd. By the pulsative and deep seated pain, which is felt principally around the orbit, eyebrow, temple, cheek, and side of the nose, whilst the pain in *conjunctivitis* is felt occasionally on the surface of the conjunctiva, and is described as a roughness, or feeling of sand under the eyelids.

3rd. The redness, which is reticular in *conjunctivitis*, is radiated or zonular in *sclerotitis*; in the former the congested vessels evidently occupy the conjunctiva, whilst in the latter they are manifestly seated under the conjunctiva.

And lastly. By the absence of any morbid secretion, whilst conjunctivitis is always attended by a muco-purulent secretion from the surface of the eye. Pure scleratitis is a much rarer disease than conjunctivitis; the proportion is estimated as one to ten. We more frequently meet them combined, giving rise to a kind of ophthalmia that is called generally the catarrho-rheumatic, the character and treatment of which the following case will illustrate.

1st Case. Jane Pitts, aged twenty-seven, was admitted in the Hahnemann Hospital on the 4th February. She states that for three months past she has felt general debility. Naturally of a pale and delicate appearance, she is subject every winter to a very severe cough, and has several times been ill with inflammation of the bowels. Catamenia appeared for the first time at sixteen years of age, ever since it has continued, with some trifling irregularities, till now. About a fortnight ago, she was suddenly seized with aching pains in her right eye, and could not distinguish clearly the surrounding objects; they seemed to be enveloped in a halo; for which she took some Senna and Salts, and the pain increased, particularly during the night. On examination, the following symptoms were observed:—loose cough, with occasional shooting pains in the chest and between the shoulders; sleeplessness and agitation from pain in the eye and head; constipation; loss of appetite; acute darting pains in the right side of the head; smarting and burning pains in the right eye; sclerotica of the right eye very much injected, of a bright red color, radiating in concentric fasciculi towards the edge of the cornea; dimness of vision; haziness of the cornea; sluggishness of the pupil, and considerable epiphora; both the upper and lower lids are swollen; and the conjunctival lining is red, and secreting a thin whitish matter; she felt hot and feverish at nights. She was ordered low diet, and Belladonna two-thirds, one-eighth every third hour.

On the 5th, there was a decided aggravation of the inflammation and cephalalgia, with increased susceptibility to light; frequency of pulse and heat of skin. I therefore substituted Aconite for Belladonna.

The following day she was seized with very violent colic; cramp-like pains, and profuse and loose evacuations, of a very offensive character, to combat which she was ordered Colocynthis, of which she took one-fourth drop, third dilution, every third hour.

On the 7th, the bowel complaint was better, but there was no amelioration in the condition of the eye; on the contrary, it seemed worse, for she complained of intense burning pain in it, and a feeling as if it was coming out. Considering that Belladonna was the most suitable remedy, notwithstanding it produced no effect when first administered, I ordered again one-eighth drop, Belladonna, third dilution, to be taken every four hours.

On the 15th, the ophthalmia was quite gone, but she complained of face-ache; there were constant spasmodic and tearing-like pains in the bones of the face. Two-thirtieths Sepia was ordered, of which she took one-sixth part three times a day, in water, which she continued till 17th, on which day she is reported quite well, and on 19th was discharged cured.

The following is a case of pure rheumatic ophthalmia, extending to the iris.

Joseph Piper, a cabman, thirty-two years of age, consulted me on 3d January, for inflammation of the right eye, which he has had for twelve years, for which he has been repeatedly blistered, cupped, and had a seton inserted, without any effectual relief. He was last attended by Mr. Alexander, the oculist, but did not receive any benefit. He attributes the disease to the damp and night air to which his occupation exposed him. It began with a slight redness of the white of the eye, and severe pain in the eye and around the eyebrow, which generally increased at night. It gradually increased without affecting vision, till two years ago, when, after a violent paroxysm of pain from a fresh cold, he discovered that he could not see well from the affected eye; since then he has been gradually losing the sight, and he can now scarcely distinguish objects. On examination I could not discover any constitutional symptoms: he appeared in good health; complained of pulsating circumorbital pain, varying in intensity; the right eye was smaller than the left, and he experienced constant deep-seated pulsations in the globe of the eye; several red vessels were observed running along the sclerotic, which was slightly red; the cornea was hazy; and the pupil was discolored, contracted, moveable, and very hazy. Considering the cause of the affection to be exposure to wet, I ordered him one-third Dulcamara, in three doses, one to be taken every four hours.

On 7th, he was very much better; he had suffered much less, and the redness of the sclerotic was diminished. He was ordered Dulcamara and Belladonna, the one-fourth of a drop of third dilution, to be taken every four hours alternately.

On 15th, there was no pain nor inflammation, and vision was more distinct. In order to remove the effusion of coagulable lymph within the pupil, I ordered him Sulphur and Calcareo alternately, five-thirtieths of each to be taken every fifth day, and on 1st April he was discharged cured. The inflammation and pain had quite left him for upwards of two months, but, owing to the irreparable change of color and structure, with the consequent imperfect function of the iris, the vision was incomplete; he could distinguish objects, but they appeared to him as if enveloped in a clear mist.

As it usually occurs in sclerotitis, only the right eye was affected, and although the disease was twelve years' standing, never did the left participate in the disease, nor had he ever suffered from rheu-

matism in any other part of the body. It has been remarked, that rheumatic sclerotitis is never metastatic, but an individual who has previously suffered from it, becomes susceptible to future attacks; hence it is advisable, to warn the patient of this fact, and give him such hygienical instruction that may protect him from the exciting causes, which may be traced always to exposure of the eye to currents of cold air, when over-heated or in a state of perspiration, or sudden changes of temperature—from a crowded room into the cold air of the street, or from getting wet, and other similar imprudences.

Amaurosis.

I shall now conclude my observations by relating to you a case of incipient amaurosis, or obscurity of vision. This is an affection of the very delicate membranous expansion of the nerve of vision or some other parts of the optic apparatus. Like all the other tissues of the eye, the nervous system is apt to become the primary focus of a morbid action, brought on either by the over-stimulation of intense light, over-action of the organs of vision, or from sympathy with affections originating in some other remote organ.

William Bennett, a sickly looking man, thirty-six years of age, silver watch-casemaker, consulted me, on 31st March, 1852, for weakness of sight and appearance of floating bodies constantly dancing before the left eye. He states that he has been suffering for two years with dyspepsia, and that it was about the same time he began to lose his sight. On examination, the only objective symptoms appreciable were in the left eye; a slight strabismus, with the pupil dilated and sluggish; he complains of perceiving constantly black streaks and spots floating before the left eye; lowness of spirits; frontal cephalalgia two or three times a week, of a dull pressive character, which usually begins in the morning, and ends at 4 P. M.; vision is obscured by a greyish cloud; diminished sensibility of the retina; throbbing pain in the globe of the eye; sleeplessness; pyrosis; tongue furred; a sense of weight and tenderness in the epigastrium after eating, and constipation.

To correct the characteristic symptoms of gastric derangement, was the obvious primary indication in this case; he was therefore ordered *Nux vomica* five-twelfths, in six doses, one to be taken night and morning. This remedy was continued for seven days with marked improvement; his digestive functions were better, but the loss of vision and the cephalalgia remained unaltered. *Chamomilla* was then ordered, after which he took, at intervals of ten days, *Pulsatilla*, *China*, and *Sulphur*. Under this treatment the patient daily improved, and at the end of four months, vision was completely restored, the head and eyes were free from pain, and the digestive organs were in perfect order.

Thus, gentlemen, I have endeavored, in this paper, to compass as extensive a field of observation on the homœopathic treatment of diseases of the eye, as the short duration of our meeting would allow. The cases I have selected to illustrate the subject of our discussion to-night, are highly interesting, in demonstrating the efficiency of our remedial means in a class of diseases, which no sophism of the old school can contest, for ophthalmias are neither imaginary nor mistakeable affections. It is also evident, from the prompt action and positive results of our method of treatment, which succeeded, in many cases, after allopathy had failed, that the new is far superior to the old system, and that in addition to such absolute results, homœopathy is also preferable, by avoiding a great deal of unnecessary annoyances, and additional pain from the leeching, bleeding, blistering, setons, and mercurialization, which are so common in the practice of allopathy.

HOMŒOPATHIC DESPOTISM.

BY JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY, M. D.

DESPOTISM!—It grates harshly upon the ear,—it bodies forth the sword of the emperial tyrant, the gibbet of the feudal lord, the lash of the slave-driver! It is the harshest word that can meet the ears of a freeborn people in a free land, though to them it seldom means more than the physical bondage which brute force exercises over comparative feebleness. We hear it, and think of the solitary pair of eagles who hold universal dominion over their conquered range of mountains, of the lion and lioness who claim the forest as their own, of the Indian chief who by spear and tomahawk secures his sway over a tribe, of the Czar whose will may depopulate a nation!—Thus we have despotism as seen on the surface, as commonly understood. But there is still another phase of despotism, it is of a darker hue, a more galling and humiliating bondage—it is that mental despotism which claims the direction of the thoughts, restrains the freedom of the will and curtails liberty of speech!—this is bondage indeed! But as the most favorable aspect of despotism presents itself under real power, so that of the mind is most tolerable under high intellectual ascendancy:—who would not be the soldier in the army of the first Napoleon rather than the follower of a Pawnee chief? the pupil of Plato rather than the disciple of Joe Smith? But view it as we may, in its most tolerable form it retards alike the progress of nations and stunts the growth of knowledge. It

matters little how large a share of native talent may fall to the lot of him whose mind is controlled by another, it must languish in the dungeon wherein it is held under bars and bolts. Dim the eagle's eye and clip his pinions, he can never soar to meet the glances of the sun:—chain him to a block, feed him upon the refuse of carrion left by the dogs, he will be grateful for your bounty and bless you for his bondage. But the man who voluntarily surrenders the guidance of his thoughts, the freedom of his will to another must needs be an idiot.

Now it is a well known, though a very strange fact, that many who have claimed the right of thought as inalienable, suffered persecution and loss for the sake of what seemed to them to be truth, have, in their turn, become themselves the most malignant and unrelenting persecutors, and have used every engine to rivet *their* chains upon those who claimed a right to pursue their investigations beyond the line which those who had just escaped from bondage had drawn around their peculiar domain of truth. To cite illustrative instances would be unnecessary, they are familiar to all readers and thinkers. The men who expressed their indignation, and paraded their wrongs till tyrant custom and preconceived notions set them free, were themselves too often as “the deaf adder that could not hear” when the same liberty was claimed by those would still follow the light as it beckoned them onward. Homœopathy is deemed the medical reformation of this age; its advocates and disciples have gone through all the stages of controversy, persecution, insolence and cool indifference from their opponents; and homœopathists have justly protested against such treatment. But all homœopathists do not think alike; there are minor differences; and many think that we have only come to the wicket gate which opens into vast and boundless fields of truth; while others insist that the truth of homœopathy is just *what it seems to them*, that contempt, persecution and scorn should pursue those who think otherwise, and that they should even be degraded socially and politically!

There is no body of men who should be more tardy in assuming this attitude towards those who differ from them than homœopathic physicians, inasmuch as they have been made to feel most keenly the rod of persecution, and are even now smarting under its repeated strokes, as often and as sharply as *their friends* of another school dare use it. And it is but fair to admit, that we lose no opportunity of

making known our grievances, and giving blow for blow when circumstances permit. This is but just and fair; may we never want the will or the power to

“Hurl vengeance back for wrong.”

Still, as we *claim* the right of thought, we should be willing to concede to others liberty to think. But do we grant this? let the following minutes, taken from the “*Homœopathic News*” (edited by Dr. Hering and Mr. Lippe)—of one of our would-be-scientific meetings, give the answer.

“PROVERS’ UNION.”

“August 9, 1855. Stated meeting at Dr. Dubbs’s. Members present: Drs. Dubbs, Neidhard, Coxe, Lippe, Compton, Reichelm, Vinal, Zumbrock, Murphy, Negendank, Geary and Cowley.

“On the election of officers, all were re-elected, with the proviso, that on more mature deliberation, other corresponding secretaries should be chosen in the place of such as would not or could not act.

“Communications respecting the administration of mixed medicines by some homœopathists of notoriety, led to the appointment of a committee, (Hering, Dubbs and Neidhard,) to report at the next meeting.”

This action was an attempt to pass a vote of censure upon some German medical philosopher, who it appears, is pursuing a series of experiments in order to test the effect of two simple medical substances, instead of one, which it seems he has found to answer an excellent purpose, and to which he openly invites the consideration of the profession. It is not stated, though it should have been, *if truth* were the object, that this motion was *not unanimous*, since one member present, Dr. Geary, objected to being a party to it, and opposed it as a silly and despotic attempt to stop the course of inquiry, and bring into ridicule those who lent themselves to such folly. It was of course useless; Dr. Geary stood alone, and those *independent* members of our profession came prepared to do what Dr. Hering had commanded them—*fas vel nefas*—for it seems that that *tolerant* and *enlightened* searcher after truth pulled the wires while his puppets danced.

But, with the ideas we have thrown out before the mind, we beg the honorable and independent members of our school in this city, to consider this act, and to look at the parade with which these few

miserable bigots attempt to muzzle, in the name of those who were then nominally members of the union, the scholars and thinkers of Europe, by thus giving effect to their "pope's bull," in an obscure little room in a place commonly known, we believe, as "Beggar's Row," Philadelphia. Oh, Freedom, blush! Independence, get thee to a dungeon: Liberty of thought and action, go, bind thee in chains, till the "holy brotherhood" of this meanest of all inquisitions, do the dark, dirty work of their petty tyrant! But have we not a just right to ask *who are these*, and what have *they done*, who thus send out, in the name of so many of us, their anathemas without deigning to notice our protest? Who is the leader, who from a distance, fires them on, while he skulks behind a hedge to keep himself safe? Let our questions be properly understood:—we seek not to know them or any of them, in their private or social relations, we seek not to know them as citizens, or in their domestic circles, or even in their private medical practice; the domain of scandal belongs to *low* men, to expatiate upon it is the *privilege of the vulgar*. Our questions have relation only to their *mental calibre*, to their literary standing, to their professional attitude before our school:—and who and what therefore are—

Dubs, Coxe, Cowley and Company?

Think for a moment of the literary laurels they have brought into our school, think of the clinical records from their note books that fill our journals, think of the deep, elaborate, and lucid treatises they have given us upon the theory and practice of medicine, and think of the graceful, accurate, and scholar-like flow of language from their lips when they speak, and from their pens when they write—and you will be filled with astonishment to find *such* men playing second fiddle to a half crazy mountebank who leads them by the nose and exhibits them as his show-men while all Europe and America are laughing at the master spirit, and his little troop of *low* comedians,—

————— "qui fœdere certo
Et premere, et laxas sciret dare jussus habenas."

(Who, by a trick which he knows, gives his ponies their head,
Or controls them with curbs, while himself takes the lead.)

We have said enough—behold the *acts*, and you see the men. As to the *leader* of this petty gang, who assumes the right in the name of American scholars and gentlemen, to gag truth and fetter science,

we have already shown in these pages what his assumptions are, and how strongly he can put forward his claims as a ruler among us! We must however, admit that he has fully developed the magpie faculty of gathering and hoarding, in holes and corners, scraps and fragments, out of which he labors to combine wild theories and wretched fantasies, which serve only to darken truth, and prevent progress. He borrows from one a scrap of Greek, from a few students, what he styles "provings;" from another, a domestic manual, *calls them his own*, and upon the strength of these, demands all Europe to kneel and worship the demigod of the "American Provers' Union." But hear the response of Europe; why she claps her hands and laughs with all her might; but let her speak for herself. We hear her shout with all the power of her learned voice across the Atlantic, and ask, ere we have time to reply—Is this he who "*forces every theory of Hahnemann into the domain of absurdity?*" (Dudgeon, page 345,) who "gravely asserts that one miserable globule will make a whole trough of water medicinal." (Ibid. Arch. XVI.) Is this the disciple of that trainer of wild horses, of Wismar, who, jockey-like, fills his bottles with *pure alcohol*, and under the patronage of his American dupe or agent, sends them flaming as "high potencies," up to the 600,000th?—which potentiizing, upon simple calculation, becomes an *impossibility and a cheat*." (Dudgeon, page 355.) Who tells us that "it is not yet time to reveal" the whole of the horse-breaker's secrets, which he Hering himself, treasures up till the world is more enlightened, or,—*more extensively cheated*. (Ibid. 354, note.) Is this he whose mental productions are styled by Dr. Trinks, "*Herings's windbags?*" whose "provings" are thus spoken of by the same high authority—"Nor can we say much of the provings made by Hering, ushered into the world with such imposing pomp." (Dr. Trinks on Reform, British Journal, page 665, No. 54.)

Are *these*, then, the men who, under the guidance of *this* man, who is deemed little better than a half demented fanatic by the first thinkers of Europe and of America, too,—if they had but the *pluck* to express what they feel—put forward their vulgar veto on the march of truth, and in the name of us all? It shall not go forth in ours.—And now let the acts of these silly blockheads and their master be laughed at by the whole world of letters and science, while this printed page remains!

DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

BY C. E. TOOTHAKER.

(Continued from page 624.)

Sometimes the surface remains moist, or the disease vanishes to return again, and thus successive crops of the eruption appear for several weeks. In this form it resembles Eczema. The skin may become so thickened and impaired as to be very painful on being rubbed or otherwise disturbed.

TREATMENT.—In the early stages *Aconite* and *Ipecacuanha* are adapted, and afterwards *Bryonia*. If the disease be not arrested after the fever subsides under the proper administration of these remedies for about four or five days, give *Rhus toxicodendron* and afterwards give *Sulphur*.—*Belladonna* may be indicated if there be great uneasiness, restlessness and impatience, with redness and swelling and burning pain when touched.

Cantharis is called for in obstinate cases and when the disease resembles eczema or impetigo, itching, burning, gnawing pains, worse on being touched.

Phosphorus when the skin becomes impaired, thickened, cracked and painful on being disturbed, as by every motion, and when the disease after abating is constantly being renewed.—Also *Calcareo carbonica*, and in the most obstinate cases.

LICHEN URTICATUS.

This variety appears at first in inflamed tumefactions or wheels, resembling the sting of a nettle, which subside in a day or two, and are succeeded by pimples, and other wheels appear in their turn to be succeeded by pimples. The whole surface may at length be covered with the eruption, and the pimples may become confluent after the wheels have disappeared. The itching is extreme and the affection obstinate; it sometimes affects young children and continues many months, occasionally follows vaccination, and is by the ignorant unjustly ascribed to its effect, or to unhealthy matter used by the physician. Like the other forms of Lichen it may frequently disappear and afterwards return. It always terminates in desquamation.

TREATMENT.—For this form of Lichen the remedies mentioned in Lichen Agrius are generally adapted. See also Nettle Rash.—*Urtica Urens*, *Apis melifica*, *Dulcamara* and *Petroleum* may also be found adapted, also *Coculus indicus*, *Rhus*, *Arsenicum* and *Lachesis*, or *Hydrocyanic acid*.

In all the forms of Lichen the local treatment is important; external applications may produce retrocession and alarming symptoms of internal disorder, as fever, headache, pains in the stomach or bowels, with colic, cramps, convulsions, and delirium. Imprudent exposures to cold, and damp feet, and food which disagrees with the stomach are also dangerous and may increase the sufferings.

The food should not be of an irritating character, and in very severe cases the patient should remain at rest. In old school practice an emulsion of bitter almonds has been recommended: also much diluted *Hydrocyanic acid*, lotions of diluted vinegar occasionally give relief. Homœopaths who use external applications, ought first to give the same remedy internally for at least twenty-four hours previous to the external application, and probably in low dilutions, or if simple remedies as vinegar in small massive doses.

The following reflections arising from the approved allopathic treatment of this disease, are made as suggestions to be adopted or rejected at pleasure.

1st. Wood and Bache recommend lotions of lime water, also of a solution of *Acetate of Ammonia*—also oils—rose water, ointment, oleaginous substances.—*Glycerine* is also said to be a good external application, also powdered starch. Wilson recommends *Collodion*, also a solution of Gutta Percha or Caoutchouc in chloroform.—Erasmus Wilson has found great benefit from a solution of the seeds of the *Croton tiglium* in alcohol. Now it so happens that nearly all the external applications recommended by allopathy for this disease have also been recommended for burns by distinguished allopathic physicians, each of whom claims to have had signal success in the treatment of burns in the application of his favorite remedy. It may be thought too bold a suggestion to enquire how far Lichen in its various forms may be considered analogous to burns and scalds, and how far this suggestion might be allowed to modify the homœopathic treatment. The efflorescence certainly bears some analogy, the vesicles of both are at first filled with serum, which at length becomes slightly opaque, and forms a crust on the surface. In both,

the first sensations are burning, tingling, scalding, &c., followed by intolerable itchings and soreness. In both, the surface beneath appears red and inflamed, and lichen is also liable to a degree of suppuration like a burn, which may also heal without suppuration: and second, how far an external treatment, such in principle as is considered homœopathic to burns, might be allowed in connection with the administration of homœopathic remedies.

PRURIGO,

Is distinguished from Lichen by the color of the eruption, which is nearly the same as the healthy skin, the pimples being generally larger and less pointed and the itching being more intense. Lichen is a more acute disease, being often attended with fever; Prurigo is chronic and without fever; the favorite resorts of Prurigo are the neck, back, shoulders, and the outer surface of the limbs. It may affect almost any portion of the skin. From their want of color the pimples are often not observed except by passing the fingers gently over the surface, but there are generally observable here, and there, a few small black scabs, the result of abrasions from the rubbings to which the intense itchings have impelled the patient. There may also be intermingled with the pimples occasionally a few wheels, or a few inflamed pustules, these last being probably produced by friction. With the itching there is frequently a sense of formication and pricking, as if ants were crawling over the surface, or as if the skin were being pierced with hot needles. These sensations are often aggravated by heat, or by exposure to cold, as in undressing, and may be so distressing as to prevent sleep for several hours. Under old school treatment the disease is often persistent for months and sometimes for years. In chronic cases of years' duration the pimples may become much enlarged, perhaps confluent, the skin thickened, and indurated or inflamed, the pimples mingled with vesicles, pustules, or even with boils, febrile symptoms and internal disorders may arise until the patient is reduced to a condition of indescribable wretchedness, which, say Wood and Bache, is "beyond the reach of remedies."

In Prurigo Seniles which is peculiar to old men, the eruption is generally flatter and less abundant than in the ordinary variety, the itching very severe and permanent, and the complaint obstinately

persistent, distinguished also by a tendency to generate pediculi, which may become numerous and troublesome.

TREATMENT.—This disease, which has proved so formidable under allopathic treatment, and has so often baffled the wisdom of the sages of the dominant school of medicine, will often yield to the alternate administration of *Rhus toxicodendron* and *Sulphur*, for a few weeks. If this should not prove sufficient, Homœopathy has abundant resources in her *Materia Medica*, and no case should be despaired of until a thorough and well directed effort has been made to cure. The disease may recur several times after it appears to have been overcome by the use of remedies, but this should be no ground of discouragement, as, in the meantime, it has been prevented from establishing itself in its more obstinate forms, or from assuming its more formidable aspects, and by a continuance of the treatment, it will ultimately yield altogether.

The following remedies may be indicated, *Agnus castus*, *Ambra grisea*, *Antimonium crudum*, *Arsenicum album*, *Baryta carbonica*, *Bovista*, *Bryonia alba*, *Calcarea carbonica*, *Carbo animalis* or *vegetabilis*, *Causticum*, *China*, *Cocculus*, *Colocynth*, *Conium maculatum*, *Digitalis*, *Dulcamara*, *Euphorbium*, *Graphites*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Kreosotum*, *Ledum palustre*, *Lycopodium*, *Magnesia*, *Mercurius*, *Mezereum*, *Muriatic acid*, *Nitric acid*, *Nux vomica*, *Oleander*, *Oleum animale*, *Opium*, *Petroleum*, *Platina*, *Pulsatilla*, *Ranunculus bulbosus*, *Rhus toxicodendron* or *radicans*, *Rhus vernix*, *Ruta*, *Sabina*, *Sarsaparilla*, *Sepia*, *Silicea*, *Spongia*, *Staphysagria*, *Sulphur*, *Sulphuric acid*, *Tartarus emeticus*, *Thuya*, *Veratrum*, *Viola tricolor*, *Zincum*.

Of the above remedies, *Aconitum*, *Calcarea*, *Mercurius*, *Nitric acid*, and *Sepia*; or *Bryonia*, *Causticum*, *Carbo veg.*, *Conium*, *Graphites*, *Opium*, *Pulsatilla*, *Rhus tox.*, *Sulphur*, *Staphysagria*, *Spongia*, are usually considered most important for this disease.

If pricking predominate with the itching, *Baryta carb.*, *Bryonia*, *Graphites*, *Platina*, and *Rhus*.

If there be biting stinging itchings, *Anacardium*, *Euphorbium*, *Mezereum*, *Pulsatilla*, *Silicea*.

If there be numbness of the skin, &c., *Ambra*, *Anacardium*, *Lycopodium*, *Oleander*, *Secale*, *Platina*.

In general, *Aconite* is indicated or a crawling itching, if the skin be dry, and with burning sensations, in persons subject to

acute inflammations and rheumatic affections, of a sanguine temperament, especially if they lead a sedentary life.

Calcareæ carbonica for symptoms similar to *Aconite*, more especially in chronic cases, and for persons of weak, cachectic habits, where there is no discoloration of the skin, or where there are small white pimples, or a dry, rough skin, or a miliary eruption. The sensations are burning, biting, itching, quivering in the skin, easily excoriated; useful when all other remedies fail, and especially for hæmorrhagic patients, and where there is a scrofulous tendency in the system, after *Aconite*, *Pulsatilla*, or *Sepia*.

Mercurius would often be found a most useful remedy for persons who have taken little or none of the different mercurial preparations, and where there is a tendency to scrofulous glandular enlargements, and suppurations, unhealthy skin, and if the itching be violent all over the body, aggravated in the evening and in bed, especially if the skin have a yellowish hue, as in chronic hepatitis.

Nitric acid is most decidedly adapted, when the patient is syphilitic, or has been affected with diseases of that character, or has taken any of the mercurial preparations in large doses, if the itching be aggravated in the open air, from cold, or in a draught of fresh, cold air, and the skin crack easily in cold weather.

Sepia is useful for females, when there are menstrual irregularities, and after *Pulsatilla*; also, at times, after *Mercurius*, or where the improper use of mercurials have been productive of the disease. It is given in a great variety of eruptive diseases, attended with itching, especially if it changes to burning, if it appear most about the joints, dry or like scabies, or intermingled with liver spots, for chlorotic persons, also for those affected with syphilis, blenorrhœas, and other affections in which the mucous surfaces are also involved.

Rhus toxicodendron, if there is torpidity, with crawlings, or with stings and burning itching, aggravated in bad weather, by changes, especially to damp cold weather, and by the heat of the bed; the open air, whether hot or cold, is unpleasant; for persons subject to rheumatism, erysipelas, and also to the prurigo of old people of unhealthy skin, it is especially adapted.

Sulphur, if too much sulphur has not already been given, is adapted to almost all affections attended with itchings, or with itching burnings: and in those cases which have been aggravated by crude doses of sulphur, it is worthy of observation how far the

thirtieth and higher dilutions of sulphur will, notwithstanding, exert a curative effect. In almost all cases of prurigo, *Rhus* and *Sulphur* may be administered with advantage in the earlier stages of the treatment.

Itching is sometimes symptomatic. Thus itching of the nose is regarded as symptomatic of irritation of the stomach, or intestinal canal, which may arise from worms, or from various other causes; itching of the anus may depend upon ascarides; itching at the end of the urethra upon irritation of the bladder, or its neck; itching of the labia pudendi upon irritation of the uterus or vagina; itching of the prepuce may depend upon derangement of the sebaceous secretions around the glands; and itchings at any of the orifices of the body may be caused by the condition of the secretions from that orifice, inciting irritation and inflammation of that part.

There may be also a general pruritus of the whole surface, or one affecting different portions of the surface, at different times, without any visible eruption, or any discoverable morbid secretion. Such cases are always to be considered symptomatic of some constitutional derangement, or of some morbid state of some important internal organ, the results of which are manifested upon the skin, thus directing our attention to the nature of the disease, and to the application of the appropriate remedy; and in no case, it is to be hoped, will the intelligent Homœopathic physician, fall into the error of old school Therapeutists, who regard the external as of more importance than the internal remedies, and who, in their external applications, appear to have no principle to guide them, unless it be some accidental cures, in regard to which they appear to have little true knowledge, either of the diseases they have cured, or of the nature or influence of the agents employed for their removal.

In direct antagonism then to old school teachings, the Homœopathist should adopt the following motto. Internal remedies are alone to be relied on in the treatment of prurigo, and external remedies, if used at all, should only be used for purposes of alleviation, whilst the internal remedy is acting upon the internal dyscrasia, by which alone the disease is supported and sustained.

VESICULAR DISEASES.

These diseases are characterised by small collections of transparent fluid effused beneath the skin. This fluid may or may not afterwards become turbid, or purulent; but in the process of recovery, if the fluid is absorbed, the epidermis desquamates in the form of scurf, whilst, if it becomes sero-purulent, it forms a laminated scab. Some of the vesicular diseases are attended with fever, and general severe disturbance; in others the health is scarcely at all affected.

They may be divided into Herpes, Eczema, and Impetigo; Miliaria, Chicken-pox, &c., being generally classed under Eruptive Fevers.

1. HERPES.

Herpes consists of clusters of vesicles, on an inflamed base, each cluster being distinct, and having skin of the natural hue between them. They usually terminate in crusts in from one to two weeks, the lymph, which is at first clear, becoming gradually milky and opaque. There may be heat, tingling or pain, and considerable constitutional disturbance.

It occurs most frequently in persons of delicate skin; and where there is a constitutional predisposition, it may be incited by various causes.

It has been divided into HERPES ZOSTER, or Shingles; HERPES PHLYCTENODES; HERPES CIRCINATUS, (*Ring-worm*); HERPES LABIALIS; and HERPES PRÆPUTIALIS.

1. HERPES ZOSTER, (*Shingles*), (*Zona*), distinguished by the clusters being so arranged, on one side the trunk, as to form a belt, of which one extremity is directed towards the spine, and the other towards the sternum, or linea alba. This band may extend half way round the body, either direct or oblique, or it may commence on the trunk, and end on one of the extremities. The clusters may commence in the middle, and extend either way, or, commencing at each extremity, approach each other till they meet. It is more common on the right side, and seldom passes the median line of the body. It may appear on the neck or side of the head. In *Zona*, the vesicles are generally roundish, and at first very minute, but, when mature, may attain the size of half a pea. They have a narrow red

margin, and may become confluent. These vesicles, or clusters of vesicles, succeed each other, one sometimes begining to fade before another is formed. In three or four days the vesicles begin to decline, and the scabs usually fall off the twelfth or fourteenth day; but as each cluster of vesicles runs its own course, the disease may be prolonged for months. Sometimes patches ulcerate and tedious sores result. Febrile symptoms, lassitude, &c., often precede the eruption, and may be relieved when the vesicles appear, or may continue afterwards. There may be burning and smarting pain in the eruption, and severe shooting pains deep in the body.

TREATMENT.—The principal remedies in this disease are *Rhus*, *Graphites*, and *Mercurius*. In obstinate cases, *Arsenicum*, *Causticum*, and *Silicea*, may be adapted. Other remedies are *Bryonia*, *Chamomilla*, *Euphorbium*, *Natrum*, *Nitric acid*, *Pulsatilla*, *Silicea*, *Sulphur*, and *Tartar emetic*. For indications consult the pathogenesis of the remedies.

HERPES PHLYCTÆNODES is distinguished by the irregularity of the appearance of the clusters, which have no fixed position, occurring most frequently on the cheek, arms, neck, or breast, and at times spreading over the whole trunk. The more extensive the eruption, in general the smaller the size of the vesicles, and the contrary. Its course is often shorter than Herpes zoster, though it may assume a chronic character, and continue for months.

REMEDIES.—Consult Herpes zoster, &c.

HERPES LABIALIS occurs about the lips and angles of the mouth. A burning sensation and redness is soon followed by vesicles, at times extending from one angle to the other, along either lip, or around the entire mouth. The part becomes hard, swollen, and often very painful. The inner mouth and fauces may exhibit vesicles similar to those upon the lips. It occurs in different forms of fever and is said to mark the commencement of convalescence.

REMEDIES.—*Arsenicum*, *Kreosotum*, *Natrum muriaticum*, *Rhus*, *Sepia*, *Staphysagria*; or *Belladonna*, *Bovista*, *Bryonia*, *Ignatia*, *Nux vomica*, *Silicea*, *Sulphur*.

HERPES PRÆPUTIALIS is distinguished only by its location upon the inner or outer surface of the prepuce. The clusters are usually

very small, and, if left undisturbed, often run their course to recovery in ten or twelve days; but on the inner surface, they may become irritated from the motion of the part, from its secretions, or from other causes, and end in obstinate sores. It has been mistaken for syphilis; from which it is easily distinguished, since syphilis is not preceded by or does not commence with vesicles, nor in clusters, and Herpes has not the hard, abrupt edges, nor those adhesive white exudations, peculiar to syphilitic or chancreous ulcers.

REMEDIES.—*Rhus, Causticum, Hepar, Nitri acidum*, and *Sepia*, or *Aurum, Dulcamara, Mercurius, Phosphoricum acidum, Sassa-parilla, Silicea, Sulphur*, will be found adapted.

HERPES CIRCINATUS, or *Ring-worm*, is distinguished by the vesicles occurring in circular patches. Other eruptive diseases, called ring-worm, are not vesicular. In the herpetic variety, the vesicles usually appear in the circumference of the ring, leaving a portion of healthy skin in the centre. The vesicles are frequently so small as to be seen with difficulty. As these vesicles dry up, and form scabs, new vesicles appear, till the disease runs its course. It usually terminates without treatment in two or three weeks.

Occasionally it is of a much more aggravated character, and spreads itself over a large extent of surface; or the skin beneath the vesicles ulcerates to a considerable depth, forming a succession of belts, the outer one being in the forming, or vesicular stage, the second in the ulcerative, the centre in the process of recovery, &c. Herpes at times exhibits circular patches of concentric rings, of different shades of color, which has hence been denominated Herpes iris. There is first a red spot, which soon becomes vesicular, the central vesicle being yellowish white, the ring around it brownish red, the second ring again yellowish white, the third narrow and dark red, the fourth a lighter red, &c., till it gradually fades into the natural color of the skin. This affection is very rare, and will usually disappear without treatment in two or three weeks.

REMEDIES.—*Calcarea, Causticum, Clematis, Manganum, Nitrum, Rhus, Sepia, Sulphur*.

If Herpes assume an ulcerative character, and show a disposition to advance, and to produce constant destruction of the integument, and of the subjacent tissues, it is called Herpes exceedens.

REMEDIES.—*Calcarea, Clematis, Conium, Dulcamara, Graphites, Hepar, Petroleum, Rhus, Sepia, Silicea, Staphysagria*; and perhaps, also, *Arsenicum, Cantharis, Cicuta, Lycopodium, Mercurius, Phosphorus, Sulphur*. This last variety is not easily distinguished from *Lupus vorax*.

In the treatment of the different varieties of the herpetic eruptions, proper attention should be given to the condition of the various secretions and functions of the body, as well as to the constitutional and other dyscrasias, upon which the proper selection of the remedy is always more or less dependant. Thus persons of hæmorrhagic tendencies might be benefited by such remedies as *Calcarea, Cantharis, Arsenicum, Rhus, &c.*, whilst persons of opposite tendencies might receive more benefit from *Conium, Graphites, Pulsatilla, Sulphur, &c.* If the urinary organs were affected, *Aconitum, Cantharis, Causticum, Mercuris, and Rhus*. If the liver, *Bryonia, Mercurius, Nux vomica, Pulsatilla, Sulphur, or Arsenicum, China, Conium, Lycopodium, Silicea*, will probably be the appropriate remedies.

If burning sensations predominate, *Arsenicum, Carbo vegetabilis, Causticum, Mercurius, and Sulphur, or Calcarea, Fluoricum acid., Hepar, Lycopodium, Staphysagria, Rhus*.

If itching predominate, give *Clematis, Sepia, Rhus, Sulphur, or Arsenicum, Causticum, Mercurius*.

If there be pricking, *Arsenicum, Clematis, Mercurius, Rhus, Sepia, or Nitri acidum, Silicea, Sulphur*.

FOR DRY HERPES, give *Arsenicum, Calcarea, Sepia, Silicea, or Dulcamara, Ledum, Mercurius, Rhus, Sulphur, Veratrum*.

FOR FURFURACEOUS, (brann-like).—*Arsenicum, Calcarea, Silicea, Lycopodium*.

FOR SCABBY.—*Calcarea, Clematis, Dulcamara, Mercurius, Mercurius aceticus, Sepia, Sulphur*.

FOR SCALY.—*Clematis, Lycopodium, Mercurius, Phosphorus, Sepia*.

FOR SCURFY.—*Calcarea, Graphites, Lycopodium, Sulphur*.

FOR HUMID.—*Graphites, Rhus, or Arsenicum, Clematis, Hepar, Lycopodium, Sepia Staphysagria*.

FOR SUPPURATING.—*Arsenicum, Mercurius, Sepia, Rhus, or Dulcamara, Silicea, Staphysagria*.

FOR YELLOWISH.—*Arsenicum, Cicuta, Cuprum, Mercurius, Sepia.*

FOR WHITISH.—*Arsenicum, Bryonia, Phosphorus, Valeriana.*

ECZEMA, (*Humid Tetter, Running Scall,*)

Is a non-contagious eruption of minute vesicles, in irregular patches, with or without surrounding redness. It is divided into Eczema simplex, rubrum, and impetiginoides. It may be acute or chronic. It consists of patches of closely crowded vesicles, transparent, with little or no intervening redness, without fever, and with no other local sensations than a disagreeable itching and tingling. In a short time the serum in the vesicles is either absorbed, or exudes, and forms a minute scale, which leaves the skin perfectly sound. Its whole course usually occupies from one to three weeks.

In Eczema rubrum, the eruption is preceded and accompanied by inflammation and redness of the skin; the vesicles first appear like glistening points, which enlarge to the size of a pin's head. These may dry up in about a week, and be succeeded by desquamation; after which the surface remains of a redish color for a few days.

The severer cases are attended with much heat, swelling, and redness; the vesicles break and exude a serous fluid, which excoriates the skin, thus increasing the suffering. This secretion at length diminishes, and concretes into scales, which separate and are followed by others several times successively. It is a favorable indication when the scales become more adherent, and upon separating, leave the skin less inflamed. If, after two or three months, the eruption continues to appear, it may be considered as having assumed the chronic form.

Eczema impetiginoides, when the vesicles become pustular similar to impetigo. The liquid becomes opaque, and concretes into soft yellow scales, which soon separate, leaving the surface inflamed; a redish liquid is exuded, which again concretes into scales as before. These scales grow thinner and drier, until they disappear in a few weeks, unless the disease degenerates into the chronic form.

Eczema may be confined to a single surface of variable extent, or appear in patches over the whole body. If the disease is extensive, it is apt to give rise to fever. In all its forms, it is attended with itching, tingling, burning, etc., in severe cases almost intolerable. In young, healthy persons, with fair skin, the eruption may rise more

quickly to its height, and decline more rapidly, leaving no observable traces behind it; but in those of dark, dry, harsh skins, and in old age, the inflammation is apt to extend to the subcutaneous tissue; the surface becomes fissured, the healing slow and interrupted, and when the disease has disappeared, it leaves a brownish colored surface.

CHRONIC ECZEMA.

This results from successive crops of vesicles, which break, and the serous exudation keeps up a constant inflammation. The skin becomes excoriated, and covered with scales, which fall, and are replaced by others; and when the disease is extensive, presents a diversity of appearances, such as the forming vesicles, the excoriated or bleeding surface, scabs or scales, in various stages, with more or less inflammation, redness, or swelling. The quantity of liquid exuding from these surfaces is sometimes very great, and when dry, very adhesive. The skin is very tender, and when the scales are removed, the surface appears covered with a whitish cheesy exudation. The skin exhales a disagreeable odor. The sensations of the patient are often in the highest degree tormenting; not from severe pain, but from excessive burning and itching. When the vesicles cease to be renewed, or are much diminished, and the liquid dries up, a tendency is often left to the production of scales, which at first are soft, yellowish, and thickish, become gradually drier, thinner, and whiter, until they assume the form of exfoliations, as in psoriasis, or the furfuraceous appearance of pityriasis. As the disease terminates they become fewer and fewer, till they are produced no longer.

Eczema is more apt to appear upon the hairy parts, though it may affect any portion of the skin, frequently occurring in the flexures of the joints. It may affect the hairy scalp, and spread to the neck, ears, or face. A large number of hairs may penetrate one scab, and raise it from the surface with their growth, or, in the earlier stages, the hair may become matted by the abundant adhesive exudation. Bleeding wounds from the nails, swelling of the glands, small abscesses, scabs, pustules, and Pediculi, may complicate the affection, till the hair may even be permanently lost from some portion of the scalp. If the discharge ceases, and the affection becomes furfuraceous, it is indicative of recovery.

If it descend to the face, (*crusta-lacta*,) it is apt to affect the conjunctiva of the eyes, producing an ophthalmia, or to pass into the nostrils and mouth, causing inflammation of these cavities, and a copious secretion. It may destroy the eye-brows and eye-lashes, or occasion tumefaction of the ears, both internal and external, with small abscesses and obstinate purulent discharges.

In men, it may attack the genitals, or around the thighs and arms, when the itching often becomes excessive.

In women, if it attack the inner surface of the labia, it might be mistaken for leucorrhœa, or even for gonorrhœa, from which, however, it would be distinguished by the excessive itching, and by the vesicular character of the eruption.

In the flexures of the joints, if the skin become thickened, with cracks and fissures, or a scaly condition of the surface, the disease is often very obstinate. On the forearms and hands it has been mistaken for itch.

The vesicles of Eczema are smaller and more acuminate than herpes, there is less redness around the patches, and a less exudation of serous fluid. Miliary eruption does not occur in patches like Eczema, and is attended with more febrile symptoms. Lichen is papular, whilst Eczema is always vesicular, which in the main also distinguishes it from impetigo, also its thinner and finer scales. It more frequently affects women than men. Infants have it more frequently about the head and face; middle-aged persons about the genitals, arms, and thighs; old persons, on the lower extremities.

TREATMENT.—Cathartics, refrigerants, narcotics, and depletions, and all allopathic quackery should be discarded as absolutely injurious and dangerous; instances being on record of insanity having resulted from such a cure, and reliance should be placed on homœopathic remedies *alone*, internally administered. The principal remedies are *Aconitum*, *Belladonna*, *Calcarea carb.*, *Cantharis*, *Dulcamara*, *Mercurius sol.*, *Phosphorus*, *Rhus tox.*, and *Sulphur*; or *Arsenicum*, *Bryonia*, *Camphora*, *Carbo veg.*, *Clematis*, *Hepar*, *Petroleum*, and *Sepia*.

If there be much fever, *Aconite* is the remedy, and it is also adapted to many of the conditions of the eruptions during the inflammatory period, especially for children and young people.

Belladonna, whenever there is a scarlet redness of the skin, dili-

tation of the pupils, dry itching and burning with stinging, fulness or bloatedness, or if the patches have a whitish border, with swelling and scurf, also if there be great sensibility to the touch, tendency to start, and if the eyes are affected, or if the flexures of the joints are sore and swollen.

Calcareæ carbonica, for persons of scrofulous tendencies, and especially for children, will often be found useful, when other remedies fail, and when the disease is protracted by some vice in the constitution, or from causes not exactly discoverable. It is adapted to excessive itchings and burnings, with biting stings; dry roughness of the skin, or disposition to ulcerate, to scabs, and to tetters eruptions; especially if there is numbness, and torpidity of the surrounding parts, and for women of profuse catamenia.

Cantharis is a valuable remedy in Eczema, and especially if there be fever, with unhealthy condition of the urinary secretions; if the parts affected are very sensitive to the touch; and if, beside the burning pains, there are acute drawings and stings, and excessive sensibility. The pathogenesis of this remedy in difficult cases should always be carefully consulted.

Dulcamara for crusta lactea; and if the eruption be attended with swelling of the glands, also after the use or abuse of mercury, in connection with or after *Hepar sulphuris*; if the eruption appear in the flexures of the joints, or in the female, within the labia, or on the pudendum, and if there is difficult urination with strictures, slimy mucous sediment, or whitish and turbid urine, or yellowish, or red; for persons subject to affections of the mucous surfaces, or to scorbutic affections; also if it appear after a cold or chill.

Mercurius, almost always adapted to scrofulous, syphilitic, or rachetic patients, of unhealthy nutrition, and easy to suffer from exposure to cold; especially after a tendency to suppuration is manifested, and if the disease has not yielded to, or been cured by, *Bryonia*, *Rhus*, *Cantharis*, *Dulcamara*, or other remedies; the excessive itching being worse at night in bed, and after being scratched. It corrects the morbid dyscrasia, and is better adapted to the ulcerative, than to the vesicular stage of the disease.

Phosphorus for persons of debilitated tendencies, and of lymphatic, scrofulous, or rachetic conditions; especially for children and elderly people; where the system is weak or exhausted, and where there is a tendency to inflammatory agitations and conges-

tions, with a highly susceptible state of the nervous system; the disease commences in round spots, which spread, and coalesce, attended with cracks, and with stinging, tearing or burning pains.

Rhus is useful in almost all the vesicular diseases, in the early stages, attended with itchings and burnings, and in the after stages, even where gangrenous ulcers are the result, and the attendant fever is very violent, and if there are crawlings, and shootings, stings and smartings, and if worse at night in bed.

Sulphur may be given after *Rhus*, for symptoms similar to *Mercurius* and *Phosphorus*, and either before or after either of those remedies, if necessary. It is indicated by the crawling, itching and burning, and especially if the eruption have a greenish yellow appearance, and discharge a serous lymph.

For further indications consult the pathogenesis of the medicines.

If Eczema be attended with fever, or result from exposures to cold and damp weather, *Dulcamara*, *Petroleum*, or *Phosphorus*, should be consulted; also *Aconite*, *Belladonna*, and *Cantharides*.

If caused by exposures to the heat of the sun, or of fire, *Arnica*, *Arsenicum*, *Causticum*, *Belladonna*, *Bryonia*, or *Rhus toxicodendron*, also *Aconite*.

Eczema rubrum, may demand *Arsenicum*, *Calcarea carbonica*, *Bryonia*, *Belladonna*, *Cantharides*, *Phosphorus*, and *Rhus*, *Petroleum*, or *Sulphur*.

Pustulous Eczema, or Eczema impetiginoides, pustules and vesicles appearing at the same time, will be met with *Carbo vegetabilis*, *Conium*, *Rhus*, *Tartar emetic*, or *Zincum*, unless some of the above mentioned remedies shall appear to be indicated, also *Bryonia*, and *Kali bichromaticum*.

Mercurial Eczema will usually be met with *Bryonia*, *Belladonna*, *China*, *Dulcamara*, *Hepar sulphuris*, *Sulphur*, or *Kali bichromaticum*, and syphilitic Eczema by *Mercurius*, or by the remedies for mercurial Eczema.

Chronic Eczema, *Arsenicum*, *Clematis*, *Conium*, *Calcarea carbonica*, *Petroleum*, *Phosphorus*, *China*, *Sulphur*, also all the remedies for mercurial and syphilitic Eczema may be adapted.

Of old people, the remedies for chronic Eczema, also *Aurum*, *Baryta carbonica*, *Staphysagria*, and if the eruption have a yellow appearance. If it be red, *Arsenicum*, *Aurum*, *Belladonna*, *Dulcamara*, *Mercurius*.

SCABIES, (*Itch*, *Psora*),

Is a vesicular, contagious eruption, acuminate, distinct, and always attended with itching. It sometimes takes the form of pustules, but generally that of vesicles. No part of the body is exempt from this eruption, though the face is rarely affected. It frequently attacks the flexures of the joints, &c., and is sometimes confined to one spot. The space between the fingers, the hand, or the wrist, from their exposed situation, are most frequently affected, also the forearm, axilla, groin, &c.

The first sign of the disease, is an itching sensation, proceeding from a minute redish eruption, with a transparent viscid liquid at the summit, and if torn by the nails, the effused liquid concretes into scabs; but if pustular, the scabs may coalesce and form excoriated surfaces, from which pus may exude. The itching is excessive, especially at night in bed, or after the use of stimulating drinks, &c. In persons whose skins are delicate, and full of blood, its progress is rapid; whilst in the feeble and cachectic it may be slower and more persistent. It is frequently checked on the supervention of an acute internal disease. The itch, if not cured, will continue for a lifetime, and may be communicated from the mother to the offspring; but has no fatal tendencies. Contagion is the only cause of scabies, and that by contact, either directly or indirectly. It is more common with children than adults; and is said to proceed from a minute insect, (*acarus scabiei*), or *sarcoptes hominis* burrowing in the skin, in or near the vesicle.

Scabies is distinguished from prurigo and lichen, by its vesicles, which in Scabies are almost universal, but in prurigo and lichen there is usually a small solid pimple without vesicles. Scabies prefers the inner, prurigo and lichen the outer portion of the limbs. The former is distinct, the latter often in patches, and in Scabies the itching is not attended with the burning tingling which distinguish prurigo and lichen, and these last are never contagious.

In Eczema the vesicles are painful, occur in patches, are not acuminate, and never of contagious origin; exactly the opposite is true of Scabies, except that in the progress of the disease the pimples sometime coalesce.

POPULAR AND PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIONS AGAINST HOMŒOPATHY.

Although the cause of homœopathy is sufficiently advanced to progress still further by the inherent truthfulness of its fundamental principles, yet it may not seem altogether superfluous to advert to the various objections which both laymen and practitioners keep raising against homœopathy, with good or ill faith. Some of these objections are not without foundation ; others are purely imaginary. We will arrange them in order, and examine them in a series, for the benefit of our readers.

Some physicians cannot mention the name of homœopathy without turning up the whites of their eyes with a sense of sacred horror. To them, homœopathy is synonymous with blasphemy, profanation, or scoundrelism of every description, and a homœopathic physician cannot possibly be anything else than a fool, an impostor, or some sort of a designing villain. We do not wish to address ourselves to such wholesale murderers of God's truth ; they will meet their reward in due time. But there are honest and intelligent practitioners, who have heard or read enough of homœopathic practice to base their objections to it upon more or less rational grounds. Some condemn the principle *similia similibus* in toto ; others accept it only in particular cases ; others pretend that homœopathy cures exclusively through the imagination, and, though they denounce homœopathy as a fallacy, yet they are willing to admit the beneficial workings of this system in restricting the use of the immoderate and destructive doses of medicine which have been a curse to the world for so many hundreds of years in the hands of alloëopathic practitioners. The popular prejudices against homœopathy are derived from the stereotyped arguments of the profession, and may be said to constitute the objections of the learned, transcribed into the language of the people. The uninformed patient inquires with anxious care how he is to get rid, under homœopathic treatment, of his excess of blood ; how the impure humors are to be removed from the fluids ; how the bile is to be cleared out of the stomach ; how the bowels are to be cleansed ; in one word, how a little globule or sweet powder, or a drop of an infinitesimal attenuation in a tumblerful of water is to perform the offices that had hitherto been performed by evacuants or derivatives of every description. Let us

devote a little space to a consideration of these various objections, commencing with such as have been raised against the principle upon which the practice of homœopathy is based.

Some physicians visit this principle with an unqualified condemnation; others accept it only partially as an excellent substitute for the expectant method. According to the former, the principle implies an absolute absurdity; according to the latter, the homœopathic dose is an inert fiction, but may be used as an admirable substitute for bread pills and the like; the mysterious little globule being possessed of a marvellous power of acting upon the imagination as a healing principle, far more subtle than any drug-power in nature. There are some physicians of the old school, who are willing to concede a little power to the homœopathic agent, just sufficient to affect the diseased organisms of children, feeble or hysterical women, or deranged nervous systems of all ages, sexes, and conditions. These various classes of objectors to homœopathy are alike ignorant of the truths embodied in this name.

The principle itself is misapprehended, owing partly to the incomplete explanations that homœopathic physicians have furnished of it, and partly to the imperfect manner in which the homœopathic doctrine is inquired into by its opponents. How can it be expected that practitioners who have conscientiously believed in Galen and Celsus, should be readily induced to repudiate these sacred authorities of the traditionary past, and accept in their stead Hahnemann, with all his extraordinary innovations, some of which seem to set all known physical laws at naught, and to defy even the most liberal construction of reason? Heretofore the doctrine has prevailed that, when the bowels are constipated, we must open them by means of a cathartic, or that, when the bowels are loose, we have to close them by astringents or narcotics. This doctrine has been practiced for ages, and, in thousands of cases, has led to satisfactory results. Here comes Hahnemann, and stigmatises the whole of this treatment as a highly injurious violation of sound therapeutical principles, and tells us with the air of a man who seems to enjoy special powers to that effect, that a diarrhœa has to be treated with cathartics, and that constipation has to be removed by astringents or opiates. If this new doctrine be true, the adherents of the old practice have certainly a right to expect that the fallacies of their methods should either be proven by abundant experience,

or by unanswerable arguments suggested by the pure reason. No just observer among homœopathic physicians will deny that a cathartic may sometimes be useful, and even necessary; in the infancy of homœopathy, the love of dogmatism which seems to be inherent in the heart of every reformer, may have led Hahnemann to launch his anathema against the use of cathartics or revulsives of every description; but we know very well at the present period, that the use of a rhubarb pill, or of a simple mustard plaster, does no more supersede the scientific validity of the homœopathic law, than that the homœopathic law supersedes the rational use of alloëopathic derivatives or counter-stimulants. We know that a glass of brandy and water, or a cup of coffee, often stops a diarrhœa without creating any secondary derangements; on the other hand, a Sedlitz powder or a bottle of Congress water, has relieved thousands of cases of constipation to the perfect satisfaction of the patients. A frank admission of this fact, coupled with a philosophical rejection of the use of derivatives in the place of the positive or direct remedial agents to which nature seems to have assigned the special business of curing diseases, would have been attended with far more satisfactory results than Hahnemann's sweeping condemnation of every therapeutic usage or proceeding of the old school. This objection to homœopathy on the part of old school practitioners, should no longer restrain them from inquiring into, and testing the merits of this system, inasmuch as it is conceded by all enlightened homœopathic physicians that it is perfectly proper to resort to the use of contraria or derivatives, for palliative purposes, whenever a palliation of suffering can be or ought to be effected by such means. The injudicious use which is made of palliative means, does not justify their unqualified expulsion from the therapeutic domain. Another difficulty in the way of a calm and philosophical inquiry into the doctrines of Hahnemann, is the manner in which homœopathic physicians expound their fundamental law of cure to the world. The formula "*similia similibus curantur*," or "like cures like," is explained as if implying an exact similarity between the symptoms of the disease and the effects of the drug upon the healthy organism. A drug, in order to become the true remedial agent in a given case, must be capable of affecting the healthy organism similarly to the disease, and this similarity must be manifested to the senses by a conformity in the external phenomena. A medicine, in order

to be capable of curing pneumonia, must likewise be capable of inducing in the healthy lungs a disturbance symptomatically similar to natural pneumonia. And so in regard to any other species of inflammation, congestion, or nervous derangement. If this external similarity be a necessary condition of cure, we know perfectly well that the homœopathic law becomes a comparative abstraction, for there are very few cases of disease where this phenomenal similarity prevails to any satisfactory extent. There is scarcely a single cutaneous disorder which can be treated with reference to the form and nature of the eruption, unless we are content à la Boëninghausen, with basing symptomatic similarity upon such a slender foundation, as his homœopathicity of Thuya to small-pox is grounded upon. We would ask any sane physician whether it is not a monstrous phantasy to suppose that one or two pustules that seem to have some of the properties of small-pox pustules, can possibly imply a similarity to the small-pox disease? Can it be expected that allœopathic observers should consider such fanciful reasonings entitled to any sort of credit? If this external similarity constitute the condition of homœopathy, how are we going to treat the many diseases to the symptoms of which no known agent in our *Materia Medica* is homœopathic? What becomes of spinal inflammation, of orchitis, of peritonitis, of hernia, of meningitis, of the various disorganizations, etc., etc., all of which diseases *can* be cured, and *have* been cured with homœopathic medicines, but upon very doubtful grounds of homœopathicity, as it is commonly interpreted. It would seem as though no clear-headed homœopathic practitioner could adhere to the doctrine that the homœopathicity of a remedy to the disease consists in the resemblance existing between the external symptoms of the drug and those of the disease. Philosophical homœopathists have long since admitted the incompleteness of this explanation of the homœopathic law, and have even gone so far as to combat with a good deal of force the technical doctrines of Hahnemann's *Organon*." In our own work, entitled "*Organon of Specific Homœopathy*," which was published by Rademacher & Sheek two years ago, we have endeavored to develope a philosophical basis for homœopathy, showing in the first place that the symptomatic homœopathy of Hahnemann is tainted with all sorts of delusions, and that the drug-provings which have been and are still being carried on as the legitimate accompaniments, on the field of pharmaco-

dynamics, of that dazzling but irrational phantasy, likewise constitute, *for the most part*, a tissue of unreliable fancies, mixed up here and there with a small fragment of positive and reliable indications of genuine drug-action, extracted from cases of poisoning, or from some allœopathic Materia Medica; and endeavoring in the second place, to derive the homœopathic law from the domain of pure reason, which is the only safe and true basis of the healing art. What other means but that of rational demonstration, had Hahnemann to refute the system of the old school, and to prove the truths of his own? Had he any right to appeal to experience? Logically speaking, he had not a single observation of his own to refer to as corroborative of the homœopathic principle when he first proclaimed it to the world as the corner-stone of the healing art. The cures quoted by Hahnemann in the introductory portion of his *Organon*, although confirmatory of the homœopathic principle, yet cannot be said to have been effected in the name of this principle. They were the fruit of empiricism, blindly and lawlessly forsaking the paths of scholastic medicine, because these latter had but too often been found erring and even mischievous guides. Before Hahnemann conducted a single case of cure in accordance with the homœopathic law, this law must first have presented itself to his reason as a natural truth. Experience came *after*, not *before* the *à priori* perception of the principle. So was America discovered *after* Columbus had determined in his reason that it must be possible to reach India by steering directly westward; and so did Leverrier discover his planet *after* he had determined the position of the new star by theoretical calculations. If, then, homœopathy was a truth founded in reason, even before it became a fact of daily experience, it behooves us to present it as such to the world; it behooves us to convince the world of the inherent truth of homœopathy, in other words, to present it as a philosophical principle, before we can expect that men of logical sense will abjure all their past habits and prejudices and become converts to homœopathy upon the mere testimony of human partizans, who, after all, are fallible witnesses, and may have been just as much deluded by the marvellous novelty of the thing as the opposite party are held captive by the sacredness of tradition. In our *Organon of Specific Homœopathy*, we have attempted to show, with how much success will be determined by those who come after us, that the homœopathic law was a truth of

reason prior to all experimental observation, and that homœopathy would never have become a living and publicly recognised principle of practice if the inner consciousness had not first perceived it as a truth of reason. When viewed and clearly understood as a truth of reason, homœopathy ceases to be a mere *doctrine of symptoms*, which are the legitimate domain of the sensual and exceedingly fallacious understanding; homœopathy, when viewed in the light of reason, becomes the true *science of therapeutics*, based upon pathology or a true doctrine of diseases, and upon physiology or a correct knowledge of the normal functions of the organism. Interminable lists of fictitious symptoms with which the world has been inundated by a host of provers, particularly by Hering, Gross, and others, have nothing to do with pathology and physiology; hence they have nothing to do with medicine, and it is utterly absurd to expect that as long as homœopathy stands before the world as the silly thing that Hering, Bœnninghausen & Co. have made her, enlightened alloëopathic practitioners should be found willing to bow to such an unmeaning and hollow humbug. First, then, let us clear the domain of homœopathy of the gross fancies which these self-constituted representatives of our school are continually crowding into our books, and then let us endeavor to present the homœopathic law as a rational truth, independent of, and superior to the officious and noisy intermeddlings of all would-be leaders, who, after all, are only blind leaders of the blind. Why should not a physician of any school, provided he recognizes the curative power of drugs, be willing to try *Aconite* as a remedy for acute inflammation of the muscular and other tissues, or *Belladonna* as a remedy for various cerebral derangements, or *Phosphorus* as a remedy for pneumonia, or *Arsenic* as a remedy for various forms of typhus, or *Nux vomica* and *Ipecacuanha* as remedies for a variety of gastric disorders? Is there anything so palpably, shockingly, and absurdly antagonistic between *Aconite* and articular rheumatism, or between *Veratrum* and Asiatic cholera, that no sane physician could possibly be prevailed upon to try *Aconite* in acute rheumatism, any more than he could be induced to admit that twice two is five? Assuredly not, and it is therefore wise to believe that the obstinate repugnance which the very name of homœopathy has met with, has been caused full as much by the absurdities of the system as presented to the

world, as by the unwillingness of the profession to listen to this unheard-of innovation.

Rau, Griesselich, Schrœn, Arnold, and a number of other writers of our school, have rescued homœopathy from the contempt which had been excited against it in the public mind by the vagaries of a few silly enthusiasts, or by the absurd pretensions of symptom-hunting scribblers, who mix up in one heterogenous mass, all the various abnormal sensations and changes which almost everybody experiences in his organism within a given period, as so many effects of a drop of the sixth, twelfth, or thirtieth attenuation. Asses will bray, and these poor deluded manufacturers of symptoms will inundate the world with their stupid abominations, yclept *provings*, which can only subserve *one* purpose, which is, to suffocate the living truth of homœopathy, as life is extinguished by foul air, or as the useful plant is stunted in its growth by parasitical vegetations. The student of homœopathy gets bewildered on looking at those interminable lists of symptoms juxtaposed on thousands of pages as the essential materials of the homœopathic edifice. Not the one-hundredth part of them is ever used in practice; nor can they be used, for the simple reason that the symptoms of all the diseases now known to pathologists, would not fill the one-hundreth part of the space occupied by our pretended provings. And yet whole catalogues of symptoms are continually being added to this ponderous *Materia Medica*. If there be any good sense left in the world, it is not to be found in the homœopathy of Hering & Co. Their homœopathy is nothing but an overgrown symptom-bubble, full of gaseous fancies, and unmeaning and baseless sophisms. The world is getting tired of their arrant nonsense. Even the great highpriest of the symptom-worshippers, Dr. G. H. G. Jahr, has deemed it prudent to forsake the dreary paths in the wilderness of symptoms, and to put forth his recent publications, one on mental diseases, and the other on diseases of women and children, under the more attractive and philosophical form of pathological treatises, thus securing to his works the respectful regard of medical men of all creeds and opinions.

A truly scientific system of medicine should consist of the *pathological series*, embodying the characteristic phenomena of the natural diseases; of the *physiological series*, embodying the phenomena of drug-diseases, as elicited by provings and accidental poisonings, and

it should exhibit the law of co-relation, by which these two series are united into an universally and specifically applicable formula of cure that will result in all cases where a cure is possible, in the most direct restoration of the patient. These two series of phenomena do not strictly correspond, for the elements of one series differ vastly from those of the other. But they ought to, and if properly constructed, will correspond sufficiently in all their individual characteristics, to subserve all the great purposes of the healing art, in a truly scientific manner. Any effort which is made to investigate and point out this specific relation between drugs and diseases, would be hailed with pleasure by all classes of physicians. For, this specific relation is as definite and precise as the relation between drugs and diseases can possibly be established. The world has a right to expect of physicians, and more particularly of homœopathists, that this rigorous precision in the treatment of disease should finally prevail, and that there should be an end of the disheartening confusion which still exists in our books and sick chambers, and which is one of the greatest drawbacks in securing converts to our system of practice.

If a physician has become sufficiently convinced of the truth of the homœopathic law to make a trial of it, the question of doses can easily be arranged with him in such a manner as not to be a stumbling-block in the way of a practical experiment. If he should be so unfortunate as to fall into the hands of a symptom-hunter, he will of course be told that there is no homœopathy outside of the thousandth potency, and that below the thousandth, everything is vulgar materialism. The new convert makes an effort to plunge into this ocean of sublimities, but he finds that all his sense will get wrecked amidst the breakers of this unfathomable faith, and so he prefers to postpone his final conversion until his eyes have become sufficiently sharpened to see light where all is darkness now. Alas, he is doomed to disappointment, unless kind Providence should lead him to some clear-headed practitioner of homœopathy, who shows him that he may settle the question of doses for himself, and that the wisdom of the high-falutian style of homœopathy is tarnished with a great deal of folly. A rational perception of the homœopathic law invariably leads to a philosophical solution of the question of doses which are not a thing of faith or fancy, but have to be determined agreeably to the character of the medicine, the suscep-

tibility of the organism to be acted upon, the nature of the disease, etc. Thus we see, that with a little sense, one prejudice after another against homœopathy may be removed. First, let us take homœopathy out of the keeping of narrow-minded egotists, who would fain reduce our science to a system of cunning tricks and devices, and of phenomenal fancies, and instead of beholding her under the mask of a repulsive phantom, we shall soon greet her as a heavenly truth.

If the homœopathic principle be true, its application must of course lead to more brilliant results in the treatment of disease than the old school can boast of. Our clinical records ought to bear the impress of correctness as regards diagnosis, selection of remedies, and logical reasoning. Instead of this, they betray a looseness of observation and an uncertainty in the choice of remedies, that cannot fail to excite a legitimate suspicion in the minds of our allœopathic readers. When Gross published his famous cures with high potencies, Watzke, one of the best practitioners of our own school, showed that every one of them was nothing but "the baseless fabric of a vision." The observations and cures published by that portion of our school to which Hering, Bœnninghausen, etc., belong, are, for the most part, worthless fancies, that are fast dying away among the public both in this country, and in Europe. It is impossible to take up any of their published cases without stumbling upon therapeutic inaccuracies. In the January number of "the News," which scurrilous publication is supposed to be the organ of the high-falutian fancy-homœopathists in this country, we find several cases of cure which no conscientious observer can accept as illustrations of the homœopathic law. Case III., p. 60, is said to have been cured with *Calcareæ carb.* This medicine has no such symptom, "as though one portion of the back-bone slipped over the other." This symptom disappeared under the action of *Sulphur*, for a proof of which we refer to Jahr's *Symptomen Codex*, Vol. II., page 914, where we find this record: "Sensation as if the vertebræ were gliding one over the other, during motion in bed." Case VI., page 61, is another, where the medicine had nothing to do with the changes in the condition of the patient. The patient had been under homœopathic treatment for three months without deriving any benefit from it. After the lapse of this period, he passes into the hands of another physician, who gives him first, *Graphites*, 200, which causes

the bowels to be moved every day for ten days; another dose of *Graphites* 200 is given, with the same happy effect. The patient having enjoyed comparative ease for about three weeks, his doctor evidently got nervous, lest nature should do all the work without him, and so he concluded to be down on the patient with a dose of *Nux* 400. Then came a train of symptoms which either did or did not result from the action of *Nux*. If the former, *Nux* was badly chosen; if the latter, the medicine was superfluously administered. *Sulphur* 2000, was now given. Why this medicine should have been selected at this stage of the treatment, and not at the commencement, we are utterly unable to account for. Previous to the exhibition of *Sulphur*, a favorable reaction had set in, and was it to interfere with this condition that another drug had to be given? But let this pass. After *Sulphur* followed a dose of *Calcarea* 2000, all by the book. But this dose upset the homœopathic custom of all well chosen medicines, which is, to first aggravate the symptoms before an improvement can be effected; in this case the patient's head first felt better, and afterwards worse, which was contrary to all rule. A few more medicines were administered, and the patient was considered moderately cured. This case having been singled out for publication, it is to be supposed that the author considered it pre-eminently qualified to exhibit the wonderful success of this species of symptomatic treatment in all its brightness. We will do Dr. Ring the justice to say, that he evidently believes what he reports; but this case shows how much credit ought to be attached to many of the clinical records which are published as specimens of homœopathic treatment.

In the same number of the *News* we see it stated by Dr. G. Nengendank, that the coating of the tongue, in the last stage of consumption, was entirely removed by Sulphuric acid, prolonging the patient's life for weeks. Our school unfortunately abounds with statements that deserve about as much credit as the foregoing. Sulphuric acid had nothing whatever to do with this purification-process. Every physician who has treated consumptive patients, knows that it is quite common for the coating on the tongue to disappear with or without treatment, and to give place to an uniform deep redness of this organ. We cannot expect much regard from our opponents as long as our literature is permitted to teem with such erroneous statements.

Speaking of our literature, we may as well allude here to a scurrilous publication, of which Constantine Hering M. D., is the responsible editor. We are willing to confess that we have no sort of regard for Dr. Hering's provings; we look upon them as unmeaning, and, to some extent, mischievous fancies: and we furthermore believe that Dr. Hering's whole conception of homœopathy is one-sided and superficial; but we should think that a gentleman of his natural abilities might be engaged in something more profitable than in publishing a sheet which his associate, who is as ignorant of medical science as he is regardless of medical ethics, fills with unmeaning and vulgar abuse. Our own self-respect forbids us to particularize, but we would ask, will such scurrility bring converts to homœopathy, or preserve the respect of her friends? Impartial and intelligent observers are beginning to ask themselves, if homœopathy be such a palpable truth, how is it that the practitioners of this system are persecuting each other with such bitter and fanatical virulence?

Having considered some of the general objections to homœopathy, especially on the part of the profession, we will now briefly allude to, and endeavor to answer, some of the special objections which the non-professional public are in the habit of raising against our practice.

We have often heard the question asked: What will you do if the medicine has to act suddenly; in a case of impending paralysis or apoplexy, for example, how will you supersede the use of the lancet, which acts instantaneously? Questions like these are asked even by many persons who are favorably inclined towards homœopathy. They are perfectly willing to admit the excellence of homœopathic treatment in chronic affections; but their confidence staggers when a severe acute disease is to be combatted by an infinitesimal dose. And yet, it is in acute diseases that homœopathy claims to be, and truly is, superior to old school treatment. This will readily be admitted by those who have arrived at a true comprehension of the homœopathic law, and of the nature of acute diseases. In inflammatory fever, the patient was supposed to make too much blood, or blood too highly vitalized. Hence the volume of blood had to be diminished by venesection, or, if the inflammatory process seemed rather of a local nature, leeches or cups were applied to the affected part. Let us first remove this phantasy by a correct theory of the nature of inflammation, and the various depletory processes will

soon be abandoned. We can easily explain to a layman who is intelligent enough to desire an explanation on the subject, that the phenomena of the circulation of the blood are governed by nervous influences in the same way as any of the other physiological functions of the organism. The true fever-symptoms are not the bounding pulse, and the dry and hot skin; the *chill* is the essential characteristic of the invasion of fever, and this chill is caused primarily by a torpor of the capillary nerves, induced by some exciting cause, exposure to draughts of air, wet, etc., and secondarily, by delays in the process of oxygenation of the venous blood, superinduced as a necessary consequence of the embarrassed nervous action. The bounding pulse is a sign of reaction, and, if from no other cause, would arise from the fact that the heart continues to propel the blood with the same force through the large vessels, and that the physical signs of this propulsion must necessarily become more manifest to the senses, in consequence of the uniformity of the circulation being interrupted by the capillary embarrassments. Hence, what we require in order to bring down the pulse, is not to diminish the volume of blood, but to remove the torpor of the capillary nerves by specific agents, the most efficacious of which is known to be Aconite. This agent acts more instantaneously than the lancet, provided physicians will use it properly. In some cases it may act with sufficient promptitude in the 30th, or even two or three hundredth attenuation; but there are cases where the concentrated tincture of the root is absolutely necessary, and where it would be positively criminal to exhibit the higher preparations. It may not be possible to determine such cases by a general rule, but there are constitutions, idiosyncratic habits, temperaments that are much more readily and beneficially acted upon by large, than by minute doses of medicine. It certainly must make a difference whether we give the patient a globule of the three hundredth potency, or five drops of the saturated tincture in a tumblerful of water, and, if it makes a difference at all, the difference must either be in favor of, or against the patient. We assert as an established fact, that, in a case of apoplexy or paralysis, the patient would be grossly wronged if, instead of prescribing the saturated tincture of Aconite root, we would content ourselves from cowardice or unreasoning dogmatism, with prescribing a few pellets moistened with an infinitesimal attenuation. We have often raised a pulse that was down to forty-five, and even thirty-five, to sixty beats, within five or ten minutes,

by means of the tincture, where a few globules would have left us in the lurch, as we had learned to our perfect satisfaction in previous cases. This sort of experience is only contradicted by those who have never dared to act independently of human authority, and who see the whole of homœopathy encased within the precincts of a globule or a symptom. .

Others again, want to know how they are to get rid of the bile on the stomach. They have been told that this cannot be accomplished without an emetic. It is supposed by patients, that the bile having accumulated in the stomach, the stomach has to be forced to expel it in a mechanical manner. Humoral pathology found it expedient to justify its artifices by such gross appeals to the sensual understanding. Homœopathists have to clear away all this thick mass of prejudice by appealing to physiology, and a more rational pathology. We have to show that the bile is not contained in the stomach as in a reservoir, and that the primary cause of its getting there is the morbid condition of the biliary system, which, whatever it may be, has to be met by specific remedies having power to impress the biliary organs in a corresponding manner. Some sympathists, we cannot call them homœopaths, teach that any medicine may accomplish this purpose, provided we discover a fancied resemblance between the symptoms of the drug and those of the disease; but the true homœopath knows that the sphere of action of every genuine drug is positive and determinate, and that this sphere is not revealed by our present provings, except in the case of those drugs which were proved under Hahnemann's personal superintendence, and the re-provings of the Austrian Provers' Society, to which a few provings furnished by other individual provers may be added. But with these few exceptions, the great mass of our provings are made up of a multitude of fanciful symptoms, collected from every part of the body except the right one.

Of course, if bile has to be cleared out of the stomach, other cru-
dities have to be swept out of the bowels, to be sweat out of the lymphatic system, expelled with the urine, and the like. If the homœopathic law of cure be properly understood, it will be an easy matter to show that all these phantasies which humoralists have entailed upon the world, are utterly inconsistent with sound pathology; the world will see that vitiated humors can only be effectually and safely removed by correcting, in every instance, the diseased action which had been set up in some tissue or organ by an invading cause.

These various remarks may convince the reader that the interests of homœopathy are best subserved by reason, and that it is, therefore, the duty of homœopathic physicians to keep their minds untrammelled from prejudice or traditional conservatism.

CHARLES J. HEMPEL, M. D.

INTERESTING CASE OF STRICTURE OF THE INTESTINES.

BY JOHN F. GEARY, M. D.

I was requested by Dr. Henry During of this city, to assist in a post mortem examination made by him, on the 18th of January, upon the infant daughter of T. D. L., Esq. This child was sixteen months old, and at birth it was found that the anus was closed by a thin membrane which readily yielded to the probe; but a stricture was discovered at the lower portion of the rectum. By the use of appropriate bougies this was kept open and widened from time to time. Yet the child was subject to alternate attacks of constipation and diarrhœa, with distressing swellings of the whole abdomen, relieved only by large discharges of flatus. The body was immensely swollen and tympanitic. Upon laying open the abdomen it was found that the rectum, between the stricture and the lower curve of the sigmoid flexure, had formed into a large sack, filling the whole pelvis, and adhering to the lower portions of the ischiatic and sacral bones; it was filled with accumulated fœces and pressed the bladder close against the symphysis pubis. Its structure was much thickened and somewhat muscular in appearance. At its upper extremity it was enclosed by another stricture of about an inch long, and the whole of the sigmoid portion contracted as far as the superior curve, where a third stricture was formed, resembling the second. The ascending, transverse and descending colon, to the point of stricture, as well as the small intestines were healthy, but inflated to their full extent. The mesentery had almost disappeared, the liver was slightly enlarged, and the gall-bladder quite full. When the inflated bowel was punctured the whole, with the exception of the sack, collapsed in a few seconds. The above abnormal deviations sufficiently account for the general condition of the child's health; and had she not subsisted principally on fluid aliment it would, of course, have been impossible to have prolonged her life so long by any mode of treatment.

PHILADELPHIA JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

VOL. IV. — MARCH, 1856. — No. XII.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

BY C. E. TOOTHAKER.

(Continued from page 688.)

TREATMENT.—*Mercurius* and *Sulphur* appear to be most specific remedies for this disease; next to these, *Carbo vegetabilis*, *Causticum*, and *Sepia*; or *Hepar*, *Lachesis*, *Lycopodium*; or *Clematis*, *Dulcamara*, *Graphites*, *Ranunculus*, and *Rhus toxicodendron*.

Give *Mercurius vivus*, two days; then *Sulphur*, two days; and continue to alternate these remedies until improvement follows. If the skin have a greasy appearance, and there are blisters, follow these remedies with *Causticum*, two days, night and morning. If the blisters turn yellow, or blueish, give *Lachesis*. If the eruption become dry, and small, give *Carbo vegetabilis*. If suppressed by external applications, give *Sulphur* and *Arsenicum*; also *China* or *Causticum*.

FOR DRY SCABIES—Give *Mercurius*, *Sepia*, *Silicea*; or *Calcarea*, *Causticum*, *Ledum*, *Lycopodium*, *Sulphur*, *Veratrum*, *Zincum*.

FOR MOIST.—*Carbo vegetabilis*, *Clematis*, *Graphites*, *Sepia*, *Staphysagria*.

FOR PUSTULOUS.—*Causticum*, *Clematis*, *Kreosotum*, *Lycopodium*, *Rhus toxicodendron*, *Ranunculus*, *Sepia*, *Sulphur*, *Tartar emetic*; with ulcers, *Clematis*, *Rhus*, *Hepar*.

FOR VESICULAR.—*Carbo vegetabilis*, *Causticum*, *Lachesis*, *Mercurius*, *Natrum*, *Rhus toxicodendron*, *Sepia*, *Sulphur*.

FOR GLOSSY or GREASY, FAT.—*Causticum*, *Kreosotum*, *Mercurius*, *Sepia*.

FOR BLEEDING.—*Calcarea*, *Dulcamara*, *Mercurius*, *Sulphur*.

FOR BAKERS' ITCH.—*Lycopodium*, and *Sulphur*; or *Calcarea*, *Dulcamara*, *Rhus*.

FOR PEDLARS'—*Cicuta*, *Lycopodium*, *Sulphur*; or *Dulcamara*, *Graphites*, *Muriaticum aceticum*, *Rhus*.

After the abuse of *Sulphur*, *Mercurius*, or *Causticum*; or *Calcarea*, *Dulcamara*, *Nitric acid*, *Pulsatilla*.

EXTERNAL APPLICATIONS.—The itching may at times be relieved after having given the medicines a few days, by washing the parts in water, either quite warm, or very cold, especially on those parts of the body not frequently washed. Soap and water will also at times give some alleviation. Oil, lard, and especially fish oil, cod liver oil, &c., rubbed over the surface, and, after some hours, well washed off with strong soap and water, may sometimes remove the sarcopti, upon which the propagation of the disease is supposed to be dependant. Wheat flour, or starch, or bran, may be applied to the surface, and will at times give relief. Any of the above expedients may be tried, whilst taking homœopathic medicines, and if they do not hasten, they will not retard the cure. Much more objectionable would it be, if any considerable portion of the body were affected, to apply strong alcohol, brandy, camphorated spirits, or any drugs, or ointments, which, although they might afford more rapid alleviation, would involve a greater sacrifice of the vital forces, and might prove destructive of life and health.

ALLOPATHIC TREATMENT.—Authors of the old school generally recommend the process of basting the whole body with sulphur ointment, as the truest and best specific. Next to this, mercurial ointments, and even corrosive sublimate; ointments of potassa, and washes of the same ingredients, and of diluted sulphuric acid, have been recommended. M. Bourquignon recommends a dilution of the alcoholic extract of staphysagria, or an ointment made of the powder of this plant in lard, which, says the Edinburgh Monthly Journal of Medical Science, will cure the disease in four days; and Biett recommends white helebore ointment, which, he says, will cure on an average in two weeks. But, say these authors, during the use of these remedies, vesicular and pustular eruptions may

occur, and cause much inflammation, so that blood-letting, and cathartics, may be necessary, and laying aside these irritating applications, emolient baths, &c., must be used instead. M. Bazin, a French allopath, informs us, that anointing with lard, or oil, without medical admixtures, will cure the disease in four or five days; and in many German hospitals, soft soap alone has been used (says *Dunglison*) with great success. The disease is generally regarded by allopathic writers as altogether local, and the administration of internal remedies is seldom or never advised.

MILIARY ERUPTION, SUDAMINA.

This might seem more properly to have been classed among the febrile diseases, but as it has often been regarded as a disease of the skin, it will receive a brief attention in this place.

It consists of vesicles, of about the size of a millet seed, thickly scattered over the body; usually an attendant upon some febrile disease. These vesicles are at first scarcely visible, only imparting a feeling of roughness to the fingers, but may be seen by viewing the surface obliquely, almost as transparent as water, looking like microscopic drops of sweat upon the skin. Though usually distinct, they may be so thick in some spots as to appear like clusters, or they may coalesce into bullæ of considerable size. They are usually most abundant on the neck and trunk. If they appear on a red base of a conical shape, and attended with itching, they may become opaque, and even pustular, or the form may be semi-globular, and there may be no redness or itching.

Occurring as they do in the course of febrile diseases, it appears to be as yet, entirely unknown, to what cause they are to be attributed, or by what particular forms of disease they are incited. It has been thought that copious and continued sweating in febrile diseases, favored their production. But in this case, though we should always look for them, they will by no means invariably be found. They are common in the course of typhoid and typhus fevers, as precursors to the eruption of small-pox, scarlatina, &c., and at times in consumptions, and in rheumatic and other fevers. They have also been known to appear upon persons in health. A sudden retrocession is considered an unfavorable omen.

REMEDIES.—The appearance of sudamina during the progress of any disease, would generally be an indication for *Bryonia*. If this did not seem adapted to the other conditions, *Aconite*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Mercurius*, or *Rhus tox.*, might be consulted; or *Antimony*, *Arsenicum*, *Belladonna*, *Chamomilla*, *Lachesis*, *Pulsatilla*, *Sulphur*. For a retrocession of the eruption, give *Sulphur*, *Bryonia*, *Belladonna*, or *Ipecacuanha*, *Arsenicum*, *Rhus*.

CHRONIC MILARIA.—*Ammonia carbonica*, *Clematis*, *Mezereum*, *Staphysagria*.

WITH EXCORIATIONS.—*Sulphur*.

Appearing in the cold air, *Sarsaparilla*.

Alternately with ASTHMA, &c., *Caladium seguinum*.

WHITE MILARIA.—*Arsenicum*, *Valerian*.

For the pustular variety, give *Clematis*, *Mercurius*, *Sulphur*, *Tartar emetic*.

PEMPHIGUS

Is an eruption of bullæ, or small blisters, containing a yellowish transparent fluid, and terminating in scabs.

In its most simple form, bullæ from the size of a pea to that of a chestnut, appear upon the face, neck, or limbs, most frequently of children during dentition, which break and heal in three or four days.

In severer cases, it is attended with fever and inflammation for two or three days before the appearance of the eruption, which appears at first in circular spots, upon which a blister forms, sometimes as large as a hen's egg. These blisters are transparent and yellowish, and break in a few days, to be followed by yellowish-brown scabs, which leave the surface of a dusky red. Successive crops of the eruption may prolong the disease to three weeks. These bullæ may appear on one part, or extend over the whole surface of the body; and may be accompanied by fever and delirium.

PEMPHIGUS SOLITARIS.

There may be only one large blister rapidly forming and breaking within forty-eight hours, discharging several ounces of liquid, and leaving an excoriated surface, to be followed, perhaps, by others successively, for eight or ten days.

CHRONIC PEMPHIGUS is distinguished from the acute only by its

longer continued succession of bullæ, which may be continued for months, or even for years. The bullæ are sometimes seen on different parts of the body, in all the different stages, at the same time. They may be followed by painful excoriations, and attended with a general deprivation of health, not unfrequently ending in dropsy.

REMEDIES.—For the acute forms of Pemphigus, *Belladonna* and *Rhus* are the principal remedies. Next to these, *Cantharis*, *Dulcamara*, *Lachesis*, *Ranunculus*, *Tartar emet.*, and *Sulphur*.

For the chronic forms, *Arsenicum*, *Cicuta*, *Clematis*, *Graphites*, *Hepar sulphuris*, *Lachesis*, *Mercurius*, *Phosphorus*, *Rhus*, *Staphysagria*, *Sulphur*.

The following indications may be useful.

If the complaint be complicated, with urinary affections, *Cantharis*, *Clematis*, *Rhus* and *Sulphur*, may be consulted, or *Arsenicum*, *Graphites*, *Hepar*, *Mercurius*, *Staphysagria*.

If it be attended with indigestion, give *Sulphur* or *Bryonia*, *Nux vomica*, *Phosphorus*, or *Carbo veg.* And in obstinate cases, *Calcarea*.

If there are circular red spots, with biting stings, give *Bryonia*; also for cough, and soreness in the chest and limbs.

Dulcamara, when corroding ulcers are formed, and if there is burning pain, restlessness and emaciation.

Belladonna, if there is headache, vertigo, and burning smartings in the vesicles, which are full and shining.

Carbo veg. when the lymph in the vesicles inclines to a red or brownish color; the vesicles shrivel, become flaccid, break, and discharge a bloody matter.

Causticum. Vesicles like small blisters, general itching, especially of the hands and face.

Sulphur, for the roughness of the skin, weakness of the eyes, or hoarseness, which may remain after the disease; also, for many of the preceding conditions, will prove useful.

Sometimes the throat and bronchia become affected, pustules appear upon the mucous surface, attended with cough, and purulent expectoration. In this case, give *Bryonia*, *Belladonna*, *Hepar*, *Mercurius*, *Phosphorus*, or *Sulphur*.

RUPIA

Resembles pemphigus, but the fluid in the vesicles is generally more opaque and sanious, the scabs thicker, often conical and fluted, and surrounded by a vesicated border, leaving behind ulcers, often deep, foul, and difficult to heal. In the mildest form, *Rupia simplex*, the fluid may be thin and transparent at first, but soon becomes opaque and purulent, and dries into brownish, rugged scabs, thicker at the centre than on the edges. These are easily detached, and leave an ulcerated surface, from which new scabs may several times arise.

In the severer forms, *Rupia prominens*, the surface is at first inflamed, bullæ form with greater or less rapidity, containing an opaque, or a blackish liquid, and scabs generally form very rapidly. The scabs receive additions from beneath, and at their borders, which gives to each scab a conical form, and a laminated appearance, like a species of small oyster shells. These scabs may adhere for some time, or may be thrown off and again renewed, or unhealthy deep circular ulcers may remain. When these finally heal, they leave purple spots, which continue a long time.

In *Rupia escharotica*, the bullæ form upon a livid surface, at first small, but gradually enlarging, containing an opaque blackish liquid, and ending in ulcers, which spread and deepen, and are covered with a fœtid excoriating sanies, or pus. They appear successively, are attended with pain and fever, and may heal after a very long period, or end in death, even in two weeks. They sometimes form scars, and leave deep pits in the skin after recovery.

Rupia is most apt to occur on the lower extremities, and about the loins, and in aged or debilitated persons, who are badly fed, or are intemperate, or in young children of bad health, or of uncleanly and depraved habits and appetites.

TREATMENT.—The constitutional condition in this, as in most diseases of the skin, demands the first attention. The diet should be simple, mild, and free from spices, and all exciting substances, and the healthy portions of the skin should be kept perfectly clean by frequent ablutions. The treatment for Pemphigus and Ecthema may also be consulted. Allopaths treat with tonics, mineral acids,

malt liquors, and wine; mercury and sarsaparilla; also iodide of potassium. (See Wood's Practice.)

Homœopathically.—*Arsenicum*, *Mercurius*, *Petroleum*, and *Sulphur*, are adapted; also *Calcarea*, *Chamomilla*, *Oleum*, *Hepar*, *Nitric Acid*, *Rhus*, and *Sepia*: or *Borax*, *Kali bichromaticum*, or *Hydrylicum*, *Silicia*, *Staphysagria*, and *Tartar emetic*.

If from a syphilitic origin, *Mercurius*, *Nitric acid*, *Kali hydriodicum*.

Rupia Escharotica of young infants, will mostly be met by *Chamomilla* and *Calcarea*; or by *Arsenicum*, *Borax*, and *Rhus*, or *Sulphur*; and *Sulphur* should usually be given to complete the cure. For further indications, consult Pemphigus.

CHAPTER IV.

PUSTULAR AFFECTIONS

Consist of eruptions of pimples, or small tumors, containing pus. They are divided into Ecthyma, Impetigo, Acne, Mentagra, and Porrigo; Variola, Varioloid, Vaccinia and Equinia, which by some are classed with pustular diseases, are generally treated as acute diseases, and will not be considered in this place.

Pustules may terminate by absorption, crusts and scabs may form with purulent matter underneath, or indurations may occur. In pustular diseases, the purulent matter exists in the early stages of the disease, in vesicular, it is always an after product. The incrustations or scabs of vesicles are thin and flimsy; those of pustules are thicker, and more solid.

1. ECTHYMA.

An eruption of round pustules, distinct, on a hard, inflamed base, followed by brownish scabs, and generally leaving reddish stains, or slight scars. They appear like small boils, generally break in two or three days, and may be very painful. Two pustules may join, and thus acquire greater size, and an irregular form; or they may occasion sympathetic swelling of the neighboring glands.

Crop after crop of these pustules may arise, and protract the disease for months; or they may become numerous, more diffused, larger, and more obstinate.

At times the whole reddened surface throws out a purulent fluid,

or the scabs, when separated, may leave ulcers, which may be deep, unhealthy, painful, and difficult to heal.

In old people, or those of vitiated health, the pustules may have a livid base, and spread over almost the whole body. These break in eight or ten days, discharging a bloody serum, and leaving a deep excavation. A dark scab succeeds, surrounded by a hard swollen, and dark red border, which may adhere for months, unless forcibly removed, when it is usually followed by an obstinate and offensive ulcer.

Ecthyma is often preceded or attended with fever and constitutional disturbance, but is never contagious.

REMEDIES.—For the febrile symptoms, give *Aconite*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Tartar emet.*; or *Antimony crude*, *Bryonia*, *Rhus tox.*

For the eruptive stage, give *Causticum*, *Mercurius*, *Tartar emet.*; or *Arsenicum*, *Lachesis*, *Kreosote*; also *Belladonna* or *Pulsatilla* may be found useful.

For the sequillæ, give *Calcarea*, *Causticum*, and *Silicia*; or *Antimony crude*, *Baryta carb.*, *Sulphur*, *Thuja*, *Lycopodium*.

For old people, *Rhus*, *Arsenicum*, and *Lachesis*; or *Baryta carb.*, *Conium*, *Mezereum*.

If complicated with syphilis, give *Mercurius* and *Nitric acid*; or *Cannabis*, *Kali hydro.*, *Mercurius iodatus*, *Thuja*, or *Sarsaparilla*.

For the Ecthyma of drunkards, give *Arsenicum*, *Lachesis*, *Nux vomica*, and *Rhus*.

If there be gastric disturbance, *Ipecacuanha*, *Nux vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, *Tartar emet.*; and *Arsenicum*, *Phosphorus*.

For urinary affections, *Cantharis*, *Cannabis*, *Mercurius*, *Rhus*, or *Phosphoric acid*.

And for persons of vitiated constitutions, often *Calcarea carb.*, *Phosphorus*, *Rhus*, *Arsenicum*.

IMPETIGO: From *Impeto*, to *infest*.

Pustular Humid Tetter. Running Scall. Crusted Tetter, &c.

Usually occurs in clusters of minute yellowish pustules, densely crowded upon a circumscribed red inflamed surface, slightly elevated, and extending a little beyond the pustules. It may be preceded or

accompanied by fever, and general malaise; is most frequent on the face, but may occur on any portion of the body. There may be one or several patches, and the patches sometimes coalesce. These pustules frequently break and discharge by the third day, and leave a red, shining, excoriated surface, exuding an ichorous fluid from numerous minute pores. This exudation soon concretes into yellowish or greenish brittle translucent scabs, beneath which, matter continues to ooze. The physician, if called at this stage, will usually detect the disease by the appearance of the incrustations, and by a few pustules, which generally still show themselves at the borders of the diseased spot. The affection is attended with disagreeable sensations, such as itching, burning, smarting, &c. In three or four weeks these sensations may diminish, and the discharge decrease; the scabs dry and fall off, leaving the skin red, thick, rough, and easily excoriated; so that slight irritations may renew the complaint. If it heal without irritation, the surface remains for some time red and shining, with a very delicate cuticle. The cure usually begins at the centre, and extends towards the circumference. The above is the acute form of the disease, or the *Impetigo Rodens* of Willan. In the chronic form, the pustules are constantly renewed, and go through the same changes as at first. They sometimes appear upon the original surface, and produce a deepened affection of the skin. Sometimes they occur upon the borders of the patch, extending in all directions, the centre remaining covered with a scabby incrustation, constituting a variety of ring-worm. At length it presents a dry, scabby surface, the origin of which is known only by a few characteristic pustules. It may cover one or both cheeks, may extend to the neck, appear upon the eye lid, the upper or lower lip, or the ala of the nose. It may also appear on the limbs, but is usually larger on the upper than on the lower extremities.

If the disease, instead of appearing in regular patches, is scattered irregularly over the affected part; it is called *Impetigo Sparsa*. This form is most likely to become chronic; may spread over the whole of one or both limbs, and by the occurrence of successive crops of the eruption, it may form a firm yellowish incrustation, which has been compared to the bark of a tree, and forms the *Impetigo Scabida* of Willan. If these scabs are removed, the surface appears excoriated, but soon covers itself with a new crust, and the

encasement thus formed, may even render motion difficult and painful. Sometimes the disease extends to the fingers and toes, and may cause a separation of the nails. Obstinate ulcers sometimes occur, which in old and feeble persons, are apt to be accompanied with œdematous effusion.

REMEDIES.—*Bryonia, Calcarea, Cicuta, Dulcamara, Graphites, Lachesis, Lycopodium, Mercurius, Rhus, and Sulphur*; or *Arsenicum, Cantharis, Conium, Phosphorus, Pulsatilla, Sepia, Silicia*.

Impetigo Scabia is frequently cured with *Lycopodium*; *Rhus*, and *Sulphur*, are also adapted; and for females, if there is leucorrhœa, and deficient menstrual discharges, *Pulsatilla, Sepia, Silicea*, will be found useful.

For Impetigo Sparsa, *Cicuta, Lachesis*, and *Sulphur*, have been recommended.

For Impetigo Rodens, *Arsenicum, Calcarea, Cicuta, Rhus, Sepia*, and *Sulphur*.

For old and feeble persons, *Arsenicum, Lachesis, Rhus*; and if there be dropsy, *Pulsatilla, Cantharis*.

In the acute form of the disease, the parts should be kept clean as possible, and covered, so as to exclude the atmosphere; and all sources of irritation should be avoided. The external applications should only be made with a view to the comfort of the patient, and should be substituted for others whenever they are found not to subserve that end.

IMPETIGO LARVALIS.

Porrigo Larvalis. Crusta Lactea. Tinea Capitis. Scald Head. Milk Crust,

Is chiefly confined to infancy; may appear on any portion of the body, but most frequently occurs on the face or scalp, covering the surface with a scabby incrustation, as with a mask. It commences with small whitish pustules, attended with much itching. These soon break; a purulent fluid escapes, which concretes into soft yellowish, brownish, or greenish scabs. The pustules spread, the scabby surface extends, and the scabs thicken from the concretion of the matter beneath. If it commence on the forehead or cheek,

it may cover the whole face, except the nostrils and eyelids; or it may cover only a limited portion of the chin, or it may completely encircle the lips. Sometimes the copious secretion prevents the formation of scabs, and sometimes there is but little fluid secreted, and the scabs are dry, brownish and adherent. If the disease be protracted, the skin may become fissured and excoriated, though scars are seldom left behind, unless from wounds by the fingers. If it appear on the scalp, the hair becomes agglutinated with the scabs, and if these are removed, the excoriated surface presents numerous exuding points, and occasional small abscesses.

At times the pustules are distinct, the scabs separate from the skin, are hard, irregular, and of a dark grey or brownish color, constituting the *Impetigo granulata* of Cazenave and Schedel. This affection is attended with itching and irritation, which frequently renders the child fretful and restless, and under Old School treatment has given rise to internal disorder, terminating in death. (*See Wood's Practice.*)

REMEDIES.—*Rhus tox.* and *Sulphur* are frequently sufficient to remove this disease; *Rhus* being better adapted to the earlier, and *Sulphur* to the later stages; or they may be given in alternate doses for one or two weeks.

Arsenicum, if the affection do not yield to the above remedies, or if the discharge be corrosive and offensive, with ulcerations, or with burnings, especially when touched; and if the glands of the neck are swollen, hard, and as if indurated.

Calcarea, *Carbonica*, in protracted cases; in vitiated constitutions with glandular enlargements; the head being covered with a thick crust; oozing tetter behind the ears; soreness of the nose, dry coryza, and bleeding, with itching and inflammation of the eyes and eye-lids.

Hepar sulphuris has cured some cases after other remedies had been tried in vain, when there were ulcers, glandular enlargements, inflammation of the eyes, &c., in scrofulous children, and also when the pustules were distinct, often appearing like small boils, with purulent discharge.

Lycopodium is adapted to many cases where there is suppuration with foetid discharge, obstruction of the glands of the neck, oozing scabs behind the ears, small hard tumors, or abscesses, or pustules

like furunculi, for scrofulous children, and especially for *Impetigo granulata*.

Graphites will frequently be found useful for symptoms similar to *Arsenicum*; if there is excessive itching, moist oozing eruptions, the hair comes off abundantly, and also if the eruption appear on the chin, or if it encircle the lips.

Viola tricolor.—I cured a case with this remedy, in a child of about four years of age. The entire scalp was invested with an incrustation about the thickness of a bonnet pasteboard, and which had for years resisted the unwearied attention of an Allopathic physician of reputed skill in this city. The hair was mostly gone. In two weeks, under the *Viola*, the child was improved; in six weeks it was well; a fine crop of hair succeeded, and the child has since enjoyed perfect health. I made use of the sixth dilution, four doses daily. No external remedies were employed.

If the scab is very thick, or the eruption extend over the entire face, with general itchings, *Antimonium crudum* may be found useful, and if it be distinct, *Impetigo granulata*, *Tartar emetic*.

If it be dry and furfuraceous, *Arsenicum*, *Baryta*, *Calcarea*, *Hepar*, *Rhus*, *Silicea*, *Sulphur*.

If it be moist, *Dulcamara*, *Hepar*, *Graphites*, *Lycopodium*, *Rhus*, *Staphysagria*, *Sepia*, *Silicea*, *Sulphur*.

If the pustules are small and acuminate, containing a straw-colored matter appearing like honey, it is generally followed by a brownish yellow scab, and the pustules have received the name *Achones*. But if the pustules are larger, flattish, the matter more viscid, and the base of the pustules often more irregular and inflamed, the scab is generally yellow, more transparent, often cellular, like a honey-comb, and the pustules are called *favi*.

This disease has been classed by some authors as an impetigo, by others as porrigo, and has sometimes been variously classed by the same authors. The Homœopathic treatment in either case is essentially the same.

ACNE.

Varus. Stone-pock, &c.

A chronic eruption of pustules, distinct, with hardened inflamed bases, probably seated in the sebaceous follicles, and frequently

terminating in tubercles. It may occur upon the face or neck, extend down along the back, or breast, or shoulders. In some cases the pimples appear in small numbers, and successively; in other cases they almost cover the surface. At first about the size of a pin's head, they may gradually enlarge, become red, shining, and slightly painful to the touch. Suppuration takes place slowly; in a week or more, a small quantity of pus is formed, which dries into a minute scab, separates, and leaves a small red elevated spot, which ultimately disappears. The eruption may be renewed indefinitely. This is the *Acne simplex* of Willan.

In the severer form, *Acne indurata*, the pustules are more inflamed, larger, and suppuration takes place more slowly. At times several follicles appear to unite, forming a considerable sized tumor, which, after suppurating, leaves a hard tubercle of a violet red color, remaining a long time. The inflammation sometimes extends to the tissues beneath the skin, which become hardened, and give irregularity to the surface. The pustules become so numerous as nearly to cover portions of the face; and between these may be seen pimples and minute scabs, with the reddish spots and whitish oblong scars left by former eruptions. Or there may be numerous black points at the orifice of the follicles, from which sebaceous matter may be pressed out, appearing like small worms with black heads; and at times, there may be a gush of pus through the same orifice. This is denominated *Acne punctata*. If this matter is so abundant as to produce crusts, it has been termed *Acne sebacea*.

All the above forms may appear at the same time, and the disease may continue for years, till the constitutional tendency is exhausted, and it may leave indelible marks upon the skin. The surface in the vicinity of the diseased follicles has usually a greasy appearance.

REMEDIES.—*Acne simplex* requires *Antimony*, *Belladonna*, *Calcarea*, *Carbo veg.*, *Graphites*, *Hepar*, *Lycopodium*, *Ledum*, *Mercurius*, *Rhus*, *Sepia*, *Silicea*, *Sulphur*.

Acne punctata.—*Arsenicum*, *Bryonia*, *Calcarea*, *Drosera*, *Graphites*, *Hepar*, *Natrum mur.*, *Nitric acid*, *Sepia*, *Silicea*, *Selenium*, *Sulphur*.

Acne of Drunkards.—*Arsenicum*, *Belladonna*, *Carbo veg.*, *Ledum*, *Nux vom.*, *Pulsatilla*, *Sulphur*.

Indurations may require *Belladonna*, *Carbo veg.*, *Ledum*, *Silicea*, *Sulphur* or *Calcarea*, *China*, *Clematis*, *Lycopodium*, *Magnesia*, *Muriatica*, *Phosphorus*, *Plumbum*.

In the treatment of Acne the constitutional condition should always be regarded. If the patient is suffering from the misuse of *Mercury*, give *Hepar*, *Nitric acid* or *Silicea*.

Acne from a syphilitic cause, requires, *Mercurius*, *Nitric acid*, *Sarsaparilla*, *Thuja*.

From undue sexual indulgence, *Phosphorus*, *Staphysagria*.

Acne comedones, *maggot pimples*, may be cured by *Natrum* or *Selenium*, or by *Drosera*, *Graphites*, *Nitric acid*, or *Sabina*.

ROSACEA.

Acne rosacea. Gutta rosea,

Usually appears first on the end of the nose, though it may commence on other portions of the face. At first, usually after some excess in eating or drinking, the skin assumes a deep red color. This may disappear and return several times before the redness becomes permanent. Yellowish pustules afterwards appear, which form a striking contrast with the purple redness at their base. The skin swells unequally, and the enlarged capillaries exhibit blueish streaks over the surface. It may be confined to the nose, or may spread to the cheeks, forehead, chin, and even the whole face, which becomes red all over, though very unequally, being deepest about the pustules, which often become tuberculous, though not disposed to suppuration, nor to resolution. The surface affected is unequal, rugose, and the aspect very repulsive.

It is often caused by excesses in eating or drinking, though it may be induced from other causes, as excessive confinement, disorders of digestion, and from Menoposia, or from other causes inducing plethora. When of long standing it is usually exceedingly obstinate.

REMEDIES.—*Arsenicum*, *Bryonia*, *Carbo ani. and veg.*, *Kreosote*, *Lachesis*, *Ledum*, *Pulsatilla*, *Rhus*, *Ruta*, *Veratrum*.

For persons addicted to intemperance.—*Nux vom.*, *Arsenicum*, *Lachesis*, *Ledum*, may be adopted.

If from Menoposia.—*Pulsatilla*, *Lachesis* or *Bryonia*, *Belladonna*, *Arsenicum*, and *Sulphur*. Also *Cocculus*, *Sanguinaria*, *Sepia*.

SYCOSIS.

Mentagra. Sycosis menti.

From *suken*, a fig, the rough interior of which, it is thought by some to resemble, especially affects the hair follicles of the face, and may occupy the chin, eyebrows, or any portion of the face covered by the beard or whiskers. It is occasionally seated on the scalp. The patient is, at first, now and then affected with an eruption, of which, perhaps, he thinks little. At length some portion of the face is attacked with heat, swelling and redness, followed by an eruption of pimples, which, in a few days, are converted into pustules of about the size of a millet seed. Each pustule is usually penetrated by a hair. They may be isolated, or in clusters, or may commence at a point, and extend over a considerable surface. These break in six or seven days, forming brownish scabs. In ten days, or more, the scabs separate, and these pustules have run their course, but others succeeds, inflammation extends to the subcutaneous tissues, accompanied by partial swelling and induration; the part becomes red, painful and deformed; the pustules are intermingled with yellowish or greenish brown scabs, matting together the hair or beard, and with tubercles of various sizes, at times as large as a cherry, which suppurate very slowly. It may affect only a small spot, covering it with a dark colored prominent scab of a peculiar appearance. If the hair fall from any spot it grows again, and resumes its wonted appearance on the restoration of health. The duration of the disease is very uncertain. It sometimes yields very speedily, at others it continues for years. Some persons suffer only in the winter, being perfectly free from the disease during summer. It is thought by some to be contagious, and to be communicable by the razor in shaving. It is distinguished from eruptions of syphilitic origin, by the syphilitic pustules being without pain and heat, slower in their progress, flatter, and surrounded by a copper-colored border, and not confined to the hairy parts.

REMEDIES.—These should always be regulated in accordance with the general health and constitutional condition of the patient. If these conditions correspond, *Cicuta* and *Silicea* may be given with hope of effecting a cure. Next to these, perhaps, *Antimony*, *Arsenicum*, *Graphites*, *Hepar*, *Lycopodium*, and *Sulphur*.

Or *Argentum nitrici*, *Carbo ani.*, *Kreosote*, *Mercurius*, *Sarsaparilla*, *Sepia*, *Clematis*, *Conium*, *Dulcamara*, *Ledum*, *Oleander*, *Spigelia*, *Staphysagria*, *Thuja*, may be adapted.

SCALY DISEASES.

If the matter from any eruption concrete forming a covering, and thus protecting the surface from the atmosphere, it is termed a scab; but if in consequence of any eruption, a lamina of the skin is elevated, and caused to peel off, the lamina thus elevated is called a scale. The scaly diseases then, are those in which lamina in the form of scales, are thrown off from the skin during the progress of the disease.

1. PSORIASIS: *Dry Scall*; *Scaly Tetter*,

Is characterized by slight elevations of the skin, surmounted by whitish scales, not depressed in the centre. Numerous small papulous elevations, often not larger than a millet-seed, break out, increase in size, and continuing quite distinct, sometimes appear like isolated drops of liquid upon the surface. If the scales are removed, they present a bright red, and somewhat painful elevation of the cuticle, which soon covers itself again with scales. They are most frequent on the back and limbs, are attended with itching, which is aggravated by the warmth of the bed.

If the elevations coalesce, forming large irregular surfaces, covered with scales of various thickness, and at times exhibiting remains of the original papulous elevations, it is called *Psoriasis diffusa*. If freed from the scales, the surfaces are red, rough, and chapped; often very large; and at times without any elevation, merely covered with minute scales. They may become inflamed and swollen, the scales may thicken, and the skin crack, into painful bleeding fissures.

PSORIASIS INVETERATA results either from long continued neglect, or from the constitution, condition and habits of the patient. It is a disease of old age, of poverty, of depraved habits; and may be induced by hardships and privations. The inflamed and thickened skin is intersected in all directions with furrows, filled with a white powdery matter, and producing immense quantities of scales. Cracks, and fissures occur in the vicinity of the articulations, which are very sore, painful and tender, even confining the patient to his bed.

In **PSORIASIS GYRATA**, the eruption appears in narrow strips; either straight, or contorted and vermicular; or sometimes in rings.

PSORIASIS is frequently local, and receives its name from its position. If it occur on the face, **PSORIASIS FACIALIS**, the scales are often of a light, yellowish brown color, or of a tawny hue. In the vicinity of the eye it assumes the form of minute scales, and is attended with inflammation of the conjunctiva. Around the lips, it may form a circle half an inch in width, with furrows converging towards the mouth, giving it a puckered appearance. The scales are thick, frequently exfoliate; are apt to crack and bleed, and are painful on movement. In the palm of the hand, distinct red elevated spots coalesce and exfoliate, or a single inflamed and painful patch, covered with a whitish scale, extends its circumference, till it occupies the whole palm, or even the back of the fingers; the central portions exfoliate; and the purple, stiff, and tender surface, with deep fissures, render every movement of the fingers painful. Another form of the disease, **PSORIASIS DORSALIS** or **GROCERS' ITCH**, on the back of the hand and fingers, causes large, hard, and dry scales, and painful fissures around the knuckles. If the nails are affected, they become distorted, lamelated, of a yellowish color, with a whitish powder about their roots, and at times scales. In the scrotum, it renders the skin rough, scaly, cracked, and inexpandible, and on the prepuce, sometimes occasions phymosis. The severer forms are sometimes attended with fever, which subsides on the appearance of the eruption; or the mucous membranes, especially of the bowels, may take on a chronic inflammation. It is distinguished from lichen by its want of pimples, and from syphilitic eruptions, by the copper-color which always attends the latter.

TREATMENT.—Even old school writers caution us against the use of external repellent applications. The application of tar ointment

has produced pericarditis, and other fatal diseases have been induced by similar causes. Homœopathic remedies, on the contrary, are always safe, and are more efficacious. The most approved remedies are *Clematis*, *Dulcamara*, *Graphites*, *Ranunculus*, *Sepia*, *Sulphur*; also, *Antimony*, *Arsenicum*, *Cicuta*, *Conium*, *Lachesis*, *Ledum*, *Lycopodium*, *Mercurius*, *Phosphorus*, *Rhus*, *Silicea*; or *Bryonia*, *Causticum*, *Hepar*, *Muriatic acid*, *Nitric acid*, *Oleander*, *Petroleum*, *Phosphoric acid*.

PSORIASIS of young children generally requires *Arsenicum*, *Calcarea*, *Cicuta*, *Dulcamara*, *Lycopodium*, *Muriatic acid*, or *Sulphur*.

PSORIASIS INVETERATA, *Calcarea*, *Clematis*, *Mercurius*, *Petroleum*, *Rhus*, *Sepia*, *Sulphur*; or *Arsenicum*, *Aurum*, *Cantharis*, *Dulcamara*, *Graphites*, *Hepar*, *Phosphorus*, *Pulsatilla*, *Sarsaparilla*, *Silicea*.

LABIALIS, *Calcarea*, *Mercurius*, *Natrum*, *Muriatic acid*; or *Antimony*, *Graphites*, *Causticum*, *Mezereum*, *Phosphorus*, *Rhus* and *Silicea*.

PALMARIS, *Graphites*, *Hepar*, *Mercurius*, *Petroleum*, *Silicea*, *Sulphur*; or *Alumina*, *Muriatic acid*, *Sarsaparilla*, *Silicea*, *Zincum*.

FACIALIS may be cured by *Calcarea* and *Sulphur*; or by *Graphites*, *Lycopodium* and *Sepia*.

SCROTALIS, *Causticum*, *Rhus*, *Petroleum*, and *Thuya*.

DORSALIS, GROINERS' ITCH, requires *Sulphur* or *Lycopodium*; or *Calcarea*, *Dulcamara*, *Graphites*, *Rhus*.

The syphilitic eruption requires *Clematis*, *Mercurius*, *Nitric acid*, *Thuya*; or *Lycopodium*, *Sarsaparilla*, *Sulphur*.

LEPRA, or LEPROSY: *Lepra vulgaris*,

Commences with minute solid eminences of a reddish hue, at first smooth, but soon covered with very delicate scales. They are distinct, and at considerable distances. Each one is quickly surrounded by others, forming regular circular patches, covered with glistening, tough, yellowish or grayish, translucent scales, and having a red, slightly elevated margin; the patches appear somewhat depressed in the centre. The scales fall, are renewed, accumulate and overlay each other, sometimes forming prominent incrustations of a whitish color upon the border. When the scales are removed, the surface is red, smooth, and shining. These patches often enlarge and

retain their red prominent margin, while the central portions assume a healthy state; a ring of greater or less width surrounding a portion of healthy skin. The patches vary in size, from an inch even to a foot or more in diameter. Neighboring patches often coalesce, forming larger and less regular patches, especially in the vicinity of the joints. The disease most frequently appears on the extremities, and on those parts where the bones are most thinly covered. It may spread nearly over the whole body. In children, the patches seldom exceed a few lines in diameter, and the scales are whiter.

In rare instances, *Lepra nigricans*, the patches are of a dark livid color, and scales of the size of half a dollar are diffused over the surface of the body.

An eruption of circular patches, less than an inch in diameter, in which the scales accumulate one upon another, the topmost one being pushed upward by larger ones beneath, till they form a sort of cone, has been termed *LEPRA PROMINENS*.

Regular circles or sections of circles distinguish *LEPRA* from *PSORIASIS*, also *Lepra* exhibits a depression in the centre of each patch. It has not the scabs and pustules which are characteristic of *Porrigo*, nor does it destroy the hair. When *symphilitic eruptions* are circular, the ring is formed of little tubercles, arranged side by side, and if there are scales, they are smaller, not continuous, and cover only a small portion of each minute elevation.

Its duration is indefinite; it may continue for years; is usually attended with itching, and sometimes with soreness and pain, on motion, so as to confine the patient in bed. Under allopathic treatment it is often extremely obstinate.

REMEDIES.—*Arsenicum*, *Clematis*, *Phosphorus* and *Rhus*; or *Bryonia*, *Causticum*, *Graphites*, *Silicea*; or *Cantharides*, *Calcarea*, *Carbo animalis*, *Cuprum*, *Sepia*, *Sulphur*, *Zincum*; and sometimes perhaps, *Alumina*, *Mezereum*, *Muriatic acid*, *Natrum*, *Petroleum*, *Sulphuric acid*, *Staphysagria*.

For further treatment, see the article *Psoriasis*.

PITYRIASIS: *Herpes furfuracii*. *Furfura*. *Dandruff*

Consists of irregular patches of thin bran-like scales, which are renewed as fast as thrown off. It is sometimes confined to the head, occupying especially those parts covered with hair, but may occur

on any portion of the body. It frequently commences without any perceptible inflammation or redness, the surface being merely covered with minute dry, whitish scales, easily detached by rubbing; or there may be a uniform incrustation, easily separated into minute bran-like particles; at times several scales may be detached from the same spot successively, beneath which a reddened speck of skin may be found to supply them.

On other parts of the body, usually small reddish spots at first appear, which enlarge into irregular patches; exfoliation succeeds generally in white furfuraceous scales, the skin appearing as if covered with bran. As these fall off, their place is supplied by others, the quantity increasing with the duration of the complaint, until it frequently becomes excessive; or instead of these bran-like scales, portions of the skin may be detached of considerable size, which are also renewed as fast as removed. The skin beneath the scales is usually quite red, and sometimes sore and painful, and the complaint is sometimes attended with swelling and redness of the parts beneath. This is the *Pityriasis rubra* of Willan.

Pityriasis of the scalp occurs perhaps most frequently in young infants, though it is quite common to adults and old people. It is usually a dry scaly scurf, which may be removed by the comb in large quantities. Sometimes the scales are large, and at other times there is with the scales an adhesive exudation, which agglutinates the scales with the hair, forming a covering for the head like a cap of asbestos. The skin beneath is vividly red in numerous points. The disease is at times confined to the eye brows, at times to the red surface of the lids, which throw off a constant succession of translucent scales.

In the palms of the hands and soles of the feet, it occurs in red spots, which spread, and constantly throw off thickened and yellowish laminae or scales. It is always attended with itching, tingling, or pricking; and scratching generally increases the irritation, till it sometimes produces a serous exudation.

REMEDIES.—*Arsenicum*, *Bryonia*, *Calcarea*, *Phosphorus*, *Rhus*, and *Sulphur*; *Alumina*, *Graphites*, *Lycopodium*, *Sepia*; or *Conium*, *Hepar*, *Ledum*, *Staphysagria*.

For DANDRUFF, *Arsenicum*, *Mezereum*, *Oleander*; or *Bryonia*, *Calcarea*, *Graphites*, *Rhus* and *Sulphur*.

PITYRIASIS of the scalp of young children is often cured by *Rhus* and *Sulphur*, or by *Bryonia*, *Arsenicum*, *Calcarea*, *Lycopodium*, *Sulphuric acid*.

Local applications if used at all, should be used with great caution. Proper care for cleansing the head, is of course important. Allopaths recommend spirituous and alkaline lotions, ointments of alum, acetate of lead, sulphate of zinc, ammoniated mercury, tar ointment, and calimine; also chloride of lime. (See Wood's Practice.) No true homœopath would tolerate such crude and barbarous applications. After giving the homœopathic remedies, it may be allowable to anoint the surface with pure lard, fresh butter or cream, and after a few hours, to wash it off with some mild soap and water, cleansing it as perfectly as possible, with pure water after the application of the soap. It may sometimes be allowable also, after using a remedy for some time, to apply externally, a weak dilution of the same remedy. No other local medicinal applications are ever to be allowed. In children always, and in adults generally, the disease will be found to yield promptly to the above simple treatment. Whilst powerful local applications producing a repercussion of the disease upon important internal organs, may endanger life and health. (See also, Wood's Practice.)

NEW BOOKS.

Two Treatises on Surgery, and the fifteenth number of "THE NORTH AMERICAN HOMŒOPATHIC JOURNAL," are the latest additions to our steadily increasing and improving stock of professional books.

The peculiar and valuable feature which distinguishes the works on surgery is, that we have the medical treatment peculiar to our school carefully and extensively described in connection with every case; and this of itself is a great advantage, as it saves both time and labour, and brings before the eye at one view a large mass of experimental knowledge, which cannot fail to be often of the utmost use when the necessity of the case may demand skill, accuracy, and promptness in the treatment. These works should, therefore, be

welcomed and secured by every educated medical man of our school—the others do not need them. As the task of reviewing these works in contrast is both difficult and somewhat invidious—since every thinker will, in such cases, choose by a preference that may appear a disadvantage to others—we most heartily commend both to each physician and student as excellent value for the money. A careful perusal, however, of one, and only a glance through the other, enables us to say, that the work of Dr. W. T. Helmuth deserves the full confidence of the student. It is compiled from the very ablest, as well as the latest, authorities on the different subjects; rendering it at once elegant in style and trustworthy in practice. We cannot bestow too much praise on the labourious efforts of its ardent and persevering author who, with becoming and (in these days of wholesale literary robbery) praiseworthy modesty, never borrows a line without fully acknowledging the source from which it has been drawn.

And while, from the cursory glance bestowed on its fellow, we are not able to speak with equal confidence, we think it on the whole an accurate and useful work; though to our taste, the style and treatment of Dr. Helmuth's book are more conservative and safe than that of Drs. Hill and Hunt's work which admits of more freedom of scope, and is more discursive in its modes of practice. We wish them both many "a new edition," which we are sure they richly deserve.

Our opinion of the *North American Journal* is implied elsewhere in this, and in a former number. It has been revived at a time when we most needed some respectable and worthy periodical to represent our school, and help to redeem its honour from the many injurious conflicts in which it has suffered. These conflicts have been foreign and domestic, and we are fully of opinion that they have not been generally dealt with as they deserved. It is vain to suppose that the position of the earnest friends of homœopathy can be otherwise than militant for years to come; and while it is their duty to repress with a firm hand every act of insubordination from within, it is no less their duty, not only to meet fearlessly and boldly every aggression from without, but "to carry the war into Africa," and assail error, superstition, presumption, and that cool self-laudation, which marks so prominently the attitude of our ene-

mies, with an unsparing and determined hand. In this city we have watched with a feeling bordering on disgust the slowness of action, the want of pluck, the almost sneaking "backing out" in cases where words of fire, of scorn, and of truthful boldness would at once convince our opponents that they must respect as well as fear us. But there is no denying the ugly fact, that to "*make money*" by the practice of homœopathy upon the non-committal principle, has been the strong feature of our career in Philadelphia for the last six years of which we have been a pretty careful spectator. Perhaps this is owing to the peculiar atmosphere of our "broad brimmed" city; though the treatment we have received at the hands of our "*respected friends*" of the Old School, proves that this influence was *partial* in its action. An independent, well-conducted medical periodical—one possessing a sufficient amount of ordinary literary ability to raise it above the sneers even of shopmen—is the only bulwark to which we could look or trust for such a stand. It is in vain to cover up the fact, that in this respect our journal has not been "*all that could be desired*," but let us speak only respectfully of the dead. And as to "*our contemporary*" the "*News!*"—alas, thou vilest, beggarliest, filthiest of all foul-mouthed vagrants, without character, capital, or credit! we pass thee by.—The Journal before us seems to our mind to meet our case and cover our present wants. It is our duty, our interest, and our best policy, to give this our united support; to keep it, and make it what it should be—a work that shall represent us at home and abroad in our true light, as American scholars, gentlemen and physicians. It is far better to have *one good* Journal in the country than a dozen contemptible abortions which every scholar must fling down in contempt after the first glance. If the profession in this country would only concentrate their energies in one noble university, in which scholarship and professional knowledge should not only vie with each other, but go hand in hand, and one worthy periodical representative of learning and science among them, America would soon become the fondest, noblest, and most faithful foster-mother of that glorious discovery to which Germany gave birth.

J. F. GEARY.

To the Editors of the Philadelphia Journal of Homœopathy:

GENTLEMEN :—

Yourselves and most of your readers are probably aware that there is an association composed of most of allopathic physicians and surgeons of this city, under the name of the "Philadelphia County Medical Society."

Of this body I was for some years a member. .

But a two years' *examination and trial* having convinced me of the efficiency of homœopathy, I informed the Society of what I had been doing, the conclusions at which I had arrived, and offered my resignation, provided the practice of homœopathy was *not* deemed consonant with the rights of members.

The *question* of the rights of members in this matter, I asked the Society to decide; because its Constitution and By-Laws contain no reference to the subject.

My resignation was delivered to the Secretary of the Society on the 18th of 6th mo., (June,) 1855.

To this letter I received no official reply, but was privately informed that it was handed over to the "Censors." Also, from another member in good standing, I received a friendly note, stating that he "was told by a gentleman well acquainted with the Board of Censors of the County Medical Society, to whom my note had been referred, that if a request was sent to them to withdraw that note, and substitute a *simple resignation*, with no reason assigned, very probably it might be received." Leading one to infer that the agitation of homœopathy was ungrateful to the feelings of the Society.

After this resignation I felt myself clear of the Society, and at liberty to publish all I might see fit in favor of the subject I had so recently examined.

Accordingly, I published in your Journal in the following month, (July,) my reasons for examining homœopathy, and the results of those examinations, with some of the results of other writers, under the title of "Reasons why medicines should be used according to the law of similarity." For I supposed the Society would *say* that it was *not* consistent with its views, that its members should practice homœopathy, and then accept my resignation.

But in 12th mo. (December), last, I received a summons to appear

before the "Board of Censors" of said Society, on a charge of violating an article in the "Code of Ethics," which article is quoted in the summons. (That, with the other correspondence, I herewith transmit to you.)

Viewing such proceeding as irregular and unauthorized, I declined obeying, and stated that the Society had no right to call my doings in question as I was *not* a member; and made a few remarks in refutation of the false charges contained in the summons.

The next news was a *notice*, that in about thirty-six hours the Censors would *report* upon my case to the Society, and that I might then (if I desired it) appear and defend myself. To this I answered, that the subject was too important to risk its defence upon an extemporaneous discourse, and the time too brief to enable me to prepare a written one; hence I *requested* to be allowed until the next stated meeting, (three months) to prepare my defence.

The last communication received, was a copy of a preamble and resolution adopted by the Society, charging, that while acknowledging fealty to its Constitution and By-Laws, (which as I said before, contain not a shadow of a reference to homœopathy,) I had been practising upon an "exclusive dogma," &c., for two years. This was followed by a resolution, that in so doing, I had forfeited my right to membership, &c.

By examining the summons, you will see how the society makes out its "exclusive dogma," a species of exclusivism *denied and spurned* by every properly educated homœopathic physician.

It will be remembered, too, that I spent two years in examining, testing, and deciding upon the merits of homœopathy, and the first public act after deciding, was my paper of *resignation* to the Society; and a whole month after that, my "reasons" were given in your Journal.

To this last act of the Society I replied by protesting against what appears to me to be a *false* accusation, and condemnation without giving a proper opportunity for defence, of an individual who was *not a member*, neither had been one for more than half a year.

The members of the Society doubtless believe they have done rightly; perhaps I would have assented to such a course five years ago, for I then *cultivated* the same hostile feeling towards homœopathy, and would have felt it a disgrace to have been thus dealt

with. Now, however, I *know* I *was* *wrong*, and that now I *am* right, and have the answer of a good conscience before Him who is to judge both parties. And instead of feeling disgraced, I feel that I am thereby compensated in *honor* and good wishes from the greatly increased number of individuals who have been unmistakeably benefited by my change in practice. For I am now entirely satisfied that my success in the treatment of disease is greater than it was before, and *greater than that of any allopathic physician* can be.

But the facts of the case are simply these, that after I had honorably acquitted myself of the Society, it accused me falsely; would not give me a fair opportunity for defence, and condemned me unheard.

The correspondence showing in detail what I have above given in abstract, I submit for publication.

Respectfully Yours,

SILAS S. BROOKS.

Philadelphia, 2d mo., 5, 1856.

No. 1.

To the PHILADELPHIA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY:—

Having given much time, and close attention to the examination of the doctrine of cure in accordance with the law "*similia, similibus curantur*", I have become fully convinced that it is the best practical guide in the administration of medicines.

In all other respects, my views correspond with the essential conditions of membership with the society; but if the treatment of disease according to this law be not deemed consonant with the rights of members, I would hereby respectfully beg leave to tender my resignation.

SILAS S. BROOKS.

Philada., 6th mo. 18, 1855.

No. 2.

Philadelphia, December 6, 1855.

BOARD OF CENSORS, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY:—
Dr. S. S. BROOKS:

Dear Sir—I am directed to summon you to appear before the Board of Censors of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, at the office of Dr. J. B. Biddle, N. E. corner of Spruce and Quince

streets, on Tuesday next, December 11, at 4 o'clock, P. M., there to answer a charge of violating Section first of Article fourth of the Code of Ethics, concerning the "Duties of Physicians to each other," &c, viz.: "But no one can be considered as a regular practitioner, or a fit associate in consultation, whose practice is based on an exclusive dogma, to the rejection of the accumulated experience of the profession, and of the aids actually furnished by anatomy, physiology, pathology, and organic chemistry."

By order of the President,

ANTHONY E. STOCKER,

No. 443 Walnut Street,

Secretary of Board of Censors.

No. 3.

Philadelphia, 12th mo. 8, 1855.

To ANTHONY E. STOCKER, M. D.,

Secretary of Board of Censors of the Philadelphia County Medical Society—

Respected Friend:—

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of thy note of the 6th instant, on behalf of the "Board of Censors." In reply to which, I would respectfully state that I demur to obey the summons of the "Board" upon the following grounds, viz.:

First. That previous to my voluntary paper of resignation to the County Society on the 18th of 6th mo. (June), last, I had done *only* what every member will aver that he *has done*, i. e., examined homœopathy.

Hence, no charge can be brought against me for that, which will not bear with equal force upon every individual of the society.

That the silence of said society with regard to my communication up to this period, (several meetings having intervened,) amounts to an *admission*, that the practice of medicine in accordance with the homœopathic law, *is not inconsistent* with the "rights of members."

Further, that according to the "By-Laws" of the society, no member who has tendered his resignation, paid up all dues owing from him to said society, and has no charges pending against him, can be considered any longer in connection; and that having complied with all these regulations, no charge resting against me, my membership had virtually ceased at the period of compliance. I cannot therefore be *liable* to be summoned by the Board of Censors till they can prove their power to retain members *against their will*, and contrary to the express words of the By-Laws. (See By-Laws, Art. V. on "Resignations.")

I am therefore a member, or *not* a member; if a member, the

"admission" forbids my liability to the Board of Censors, *if not a member*, the same inference holds, of course.

Second. That I have *not* violated that part of the Fourth Article of the "Code of Ethics," quoted in thy note: *First*, because my practice is *not* based upon an "exclusive dogma," *nor do I reject* any portion of the *sound, valuable, and useful* experience which has accumulated in the records of the profession from its earliest down to the present time; but on the contrary, base all my practice in the treatment of disease, on such experience only, and rejecting such worthless and dangerous errors as have been found to have done great mischief to the people, not merely by failing to cure disease, but by adding new evils to the sum of human suffering. *Second.* *It is not true* that I reject the "aids actually furnished by anatomy, physiology, pathology, and organic chemistry," but on the other hand, consider all these branches *absolutely indispensable* to the successful study and practice of medicine: nor under any circumstances, can any individual be entitled to the rank of a physician, without the necessary amount of knowledge of these branches. Upon such a charge, therefore, I cannot be cited.

Third. That the only point upon which I deviate from the common practice, is in administering medicines to the sick according to the principle implied in the words, *similia similibus curantur*, a law based upon sound experience, and demonstrated by innumerable experiments in all parts of the world; which experiments have been conducted by a *host* of thoroughly qualified physicians, accomplished in all the learning and science that pertain to our calling.

Fourth. That if the charge implied in thy note is intended to apply to the advocates of this system, and to myself as one of them, it is clearly contrary to the facts of the case, inasmuch as their numerous and valuable publications on the various branches of medical science, *prove it to be unfounded*; and the course of education in their institutions differing in no way as to the branches taught by the usual chairs, from all other medical colleges of respectable standing, save in the one point above noted.

If, however, notwithstanding what I have here set forth, the society desire to challenge me upon the charges made in thy note, I respectfully submit, that in accordance with the universal and ancient custom of all learned and scientific bodies, I should have been summoned to defend in a Thesis before the assembled members, the principles which I profess, and am willing to maintain.

Then it should be their undoubted right to refute what they may deem erroneous, and in case of their failing to do so, they would be bound to accept well authenticated discoveries and useful improvements, though they should differ from, or throw new light upon defective and injurious practice, however firmly established by age, or tolerated only by common and thoughtless usage.

Submitting these reasons for refusing to comply with a summons which I must be allowed to consider irregular and unauthorized upon the premises,

I remain, most respectfully,

SILAS S. BROOKS,
474 Vine Street, above Thirteenth.

No. 4.

Philadelphia, January 14, 1856.

Dr. S. S. BROOKS:

Dear Sir—Agreeably to Article 6th of the Constitution of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, it becomes my duty to inform you that the Board of Censors will present their report upon the charge preferred against you of a violation of the Code of Ethics, at the next stated meeting of the society. This meeting will be held in the Hall of the College of Physicians, (Hospital Building, Spruce above Eighth,) on Wednesday afternoon, January 16, 1856, at 3½ o'clock. You will then, should you so desire it, have an opportunity of being heard in your defence, and in maintenance of the peculiar theory you have espoused.

Respectfully, yours, &c.,

ANTHONY E. STOCKER,
Secretary of Board of Censors.

No. 5.

Philadelphia, 1st mo. 15, 1856.

To Dr. A. E. STOCKER:

Secretary of the Board of Censors of the
Philadelphia County Medical Society:

Respected Friend—Thy note of yesterday, giving information that my case is to go before the society at the meeting which will occur to-morrow, was received last evening.

In answer, I would refer to my former communication to the Censors, in which I express the *doubts* existing in my own mind concerning my present membership with the County Society, and consequently, its *right* to arraign me upon any subject whatever.

But if the society still considers me a member, and desires to prosecute its accusation against me, I will cheerfully appear before it, provided a reasonable time is allowed for preparing my defence.

The time now allotted is about a day and a-half, a period entirely too short to prepare a defence that should do justice to all parties. The importance of the subject is too deep to admit of a satisfactory defence being made in an extemporaneous discourse.

Therefore I respectfully decline making any defence upon so short a notice; but would hereby *request that* when the Censors report my case, they also state my desire to *defend* and *maintain* my cause; and that I be allowed until the next stated meeting in 4th mo., (April) next, to prepare that defence.

Respectfully thine,
 SILAS S. BROOKS.

No. 6.

Philadelphia County Medical Society.

Philadelphia, January 22, 1856.

Dr. SILAS S. BROOKS :

Dear Sir—I have the unpleasant duty assigned me of communicating to you the following *extracts* from the proceeding of the *Philadelphia County Medical Society*, at its stated meeting, held January 16, 1856.

At a *stated* quarterly meeting of the *Philadelphia County Medical Society*, held on Wednesday afternoon, January 16, 1856, the Board of Censors submitted their report upon the charge preferred against Dr. Silas S. Brooks of having violated the Code of Ethics.

Whereupon, the following *Preamble* and *Resolutions* were unanimously adopted, viz. :

Whereas, Silas S. Brooks, M. D., a member of this Society, has publicly avowed his adhesion to an exclusive *dogma* as the basis of his practice, in violation of *Article 4th, Section 1st*, of the *Code of Ethics* of this society.

And *whereas, in a pamphlet* recently issued and circulated by him, he makes known that he had been practising medicine upon an exclusive dogma for *two* years previously, while professing fealty to the Constitution and Code of Ethics of this Society.

Resolved, that Silas S. Brooks, M. D., has forfeited his membership in the Philadelphia County Medical Society, and that from and after the adoption of this resolution, he is no longer a member of this Society.

Resolved, That the Secretary furnish him with a copy of the Preamble and Resolution adopted in his case, and notify that he is no longer a member of the Philadelphia County Medical Society.

Extract from the Minutes.

Attest,

ANTHONY E. STOCKER,
 Recording Secretary.

No. 7

Philadelphia, 2d mo. 5, 1856.

"A. E. STOCKER, M. D.:

"Secretary of the Philadelphia County Medical Society:

Respected Friend—I have received a copy of the Preamble and Resolution of the Society in relation to myself.

But I *do*, and always have, considered myself as placed *without* the pale of said Society by my act of resignation, dated 6th mo. 18, 1855, and this last act of that body deciding the condition or provision on which my resignation was to take effect, has confirmed my opinion.

I must therefore declare that I view the non-acceptance of my resignation, and the course pursued by the Society, as arrogant and unjust; being nothing less than an *assumed* right to *falsely* accuse and condemn an individual who was *not now, nor had been* a member for more than six months.

Hence I most emphatically *protest* against such proceedings, and request that this action on my part be made known to the Society, and that this protestation be entered upon its minutes.

Very respectfully,

SILAS S. BROOKS."

EDITORIAL REMARKS.

Gentlemen of the "Philadelphia County Medical Society," we hail another of your overt acts against homœopathy, as chronicled in the foregoing pages. It forms an excellent appendix to the famous "Atlee Resolution," that which redounded so much to the praise of genius, learning, and liberality among you. These consummate strokes of skilful strategy cannot fail to *uproot* homœopathy, and establish, by a vast pre-eminence, your right to have and to hold, control and direct, all sick people, and the fees which they should pay, their medical treatment and the orthodoxy of their speedy recovery or early death. This must needs be so at your *head quarters*. Here are your fortifications, your corps of reserve, your temple, the *Ægis* of your high priesthood, the stole of your sophists. Your whole strength is therefore here. But, gentlemen, weak points are to be found in the best defended fortifications, and scraps of drivelling nonsense under cover of the most pompous ceremonials. I am obliged, and to be candid, not at all sorry, to assert that your present acts appear to be a most happy

illustration in point. You suppose, doubtless, you have gained a great victory over Dr. Brooks ; but you are very much mistaken. That quiet, thoughtful, unassuming, but determined student has a decided victory over you, in a word, has proved by far "too many for you." While he was one of your own ranks, he was confessedly as zealous as any of you in condemning homœopathy *before he had examined it*. Still circumstances,—which often make men and decide the fate of empires by their all powerful sway—convinced him that a subject or system which can count its thousands of scholars and thinkers as learned and profound as most of you, and some of them at least perhaps a *little more*, of men of noble name, in the highest station to which men can aspire among their fellows, deserved more serious treatment than to be put aside with that expression which has always been the index denoting the mental capacity of

"Such as have lodging in their head
That's to be let unfurnished."

—"O, *there is nothing in it.*"—This we may call the dunce's ready reason. Thus impressed by the great facts transpiring daily about him, Dr. Brooks quietly commences a series of experiments by which alone he could fairly deny or assert the truth of homœopathy, and the only mode by which any system of medical treatment can be fairly tested. After two years' patient and careful investigation, he arrives at the irresistible conclusion that homœopathy is an improvement, at least, on his regular mode of practice, and that in order to satisfy the dictates of his conscience he must adopt it for the sake of truth and humanity. After his resolve is formed, the cost counted, and that measure of little obloquy which small souls never fail to turn to the greatest account, fully estimated, his first overt act is to offer his resignation with his simple, but very cogent reasons for the change. But what is your course ? Why, a childish, silly, ridiculous attempt to perpetrate an act of school-boy revenge ! You are silent, and in six months after his resignation you pretend to *expel* him :—While you skulk with cowardice from his open and unmistakeable challenge :—an act which no learned body has ever been guilty of before, under like circumstances. "*Expelling*," in Philadelphia, methinks, seems to be the only substitute for the stake and the faggot, the rack and the dungeon of other days and other lands, when the course of inquiry is to be checked, the march of science impeded. But despotism is not yet dead, and the hell of

the narrow-minded bigot yawns still with open mouth as wide as ever. But "a fig for it," for your "expulsion," and for your frown! Truth will flourish while you are living, and your Hades open, and will triumph when you are dead, and it filled up with the rubbish and filth flung out from a renovated and progressive community. But you are not so silly as to suppose you *had any power* to expel Dr. Brooks *six months after* he honorably resigned from among you? Your attempt is more effete than the smallest homœopathic dose on record. You rise up in a fury and kick a man down stairs after his very shadow has faded from your premises for months! You have made blundering work of it, certainly. And now, why do you "expel," or why do you go through the farce of this "thundering" anathema? Because *he spent two years* in testing the efficacy of an improved mode of medical practice, and found that he could honestly adopt it. Very well, you *know* homœopathy is *all wrong*, don't you? Yes, *you do*. Very well: *how* do you know it? Is it because Professor Simpson has *said* it was? is it because Dr. Paris has *declared* it was? is it because Mr. Wakley has *houted* it was? And because the saying, the declaration, and the shout, have crossed the Atlantic, and been "*edited, corrected, and improved,*"—*just on the title-page, you know*—on this side? And you can see that all this amounts to a *demonstration* that "*there is nothing in it!*" Or is it because you have conducted an equal number of careful experiments with Dr. B., and treated as many patients homœopathically? If so, you should be all "expelled." Or have you decided against the system by merely *reading* the words *similia similibus curantur*? This you *have* done; for you have never made further trial or further investigation, and therefore you know not what you do. You all know mathematics? *of course you do*,—from Euclid's Elements to the Integral Calculus,—and would you not think him a *very sensible* fellow, who by just reading over the axioms and postulates, would say, "*there's nothing in it.*" Or he who, after he has dived at the first and second declension of his Latin Grammar, blusters out, "*damn homo,*" "*there's nothing in it.*" Gentlemen, I am much obliged to you; these acts of yours *have done more* for Dr. Brooks and homœopathy than you intended.

Your friend and well wisher,

J. F. GEARY.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.

DR. PETERS' REVIEW.

IN the February number of the North American Homœopathic Journal, we have been favored with a short notice of a translation of Tessier's little work on the treatment of pneumonia, published by that veteran of homœopathic literature in this country, Wm. Radde, Esq. After paying us a handsome compliment for our labors in the field of homœopathy, the writer of this review, Dr. Peters, takes occasion to give us a friendly dig under the fifth rib, to which we wish to return another friendly dig in the same sensitive spot by way of acknowledgment.

In the first place, we wish to state, that we object to being held responsible for the mistakes of our printer. We have examined our translation, and find that it is only in two instances that the word bronchophony is printed bronchotomy; in all the other cases, some thirty or forty, it is printed correctly. The reviewer should not have made it appear as though a typographical error was chargeable to our own ignorance of the subject. But the reviewer may have been so much pleased with the opportunity of making a show of erudition, that he probably could not prevail upon himself to forego the chance here afforded him.

But here comes an awful piece of ignorance on the part of Dr. Hempel, and Dr. Peters takes great care to proclaim it to the world with a tremendous flourish of rude declamation, which looks more like the bombastic gasconade of an inflated egotist than the just criticism of a philosophical lover of truth. If this diatribe were not found printed in a respectable journal, of which Dr. E. E. Marcy is the leading editor, we might feel disposed to overlook it; but inasmuch as, in such honorable company, we do not wish to be paraded before the world as an ignoramus by our critic, in whose wisdom as a physician we have not near as much confidence as he himself has, we will take the liberty of showing him, for his own benefit, we trust, that, before he undertakes to cut a grand swell as a critic, he will have to do something more than to pile up a lot of medical terms in his memory, where they are no more nor less than a heap of rubbish, and that he will have, above all things, to cast a glance into the inmost philosophy of the phenomena of disease, for

the correct apperception and appreciation of which mere book-learning is an insufficient and unsafe guide, as it has proved to be in Dr. Peters' case.

Our critic takes us to task for having rendered the French term "*souffle*" by "bellows' sound;" if we had said, "blowing sound," he would have been satisfied. Our critic deals in words, not in ideas, as we will presently show him. Tessier uses the word "*souffle*" indiscriminately for the acoustic signs characterising organic diseases of the heart as well as for the abnormal sounds occurring in pneumonia. His 9th case is a case of pneumonia complicated with organic affection of the heart. Originally the patient was admitted in the hospital for heart-disease, one of the symptoms of which, as recorded by Tessier, was: "*Souffle très-manifeste et rude, au premier temps,*" which means in English, we suppose: Manifest or distinct and harsh blowing-sound, during the first movement. The next day the patient was attacked with pneumonia, the physical signs of which, according to Tessier's own statement, were entirely wanting, when the patient was first examined subsequently to the examination for heart-disease. Tessier's words are: "*la percussion et l'auscultation ne donnent encore à ce moment aucun signe,*" no signs are as yet revealed by percussion or auscultation. Tessier uses the words "*souffle*" or "*bruit de souffle,*" (blowing-noise) indiscriminately, and we have further shown that he applies the word "*souffle*" indiscriminately to the abnormal sounds occurring in diseases of the heart, and to the abnormal sounds occurring in pneumonia. Why? Because Tessier is a philosopher, a man of a thinking and reasoning brain, who loves the idea first and the word next, differently from our critic, who first hugs the letter and seems ignorant of the living thought conveyed by this dead symbol. But we feel disposed to return good for evil, and teach our critic a lesson in auscultation, which may be of use to him hereafter. Previously, however, let us inform him that, between bellows'-sound and blowing sound, there may not possibly be any difference, and that, if there be a difference, it is only a difference in quantity, not in essence. We have used the term bellows'-sound instead of blowing-sound; 1, simply because we valued the fact expressed, more than the name; 2, because in the original text no distinction is made between the two; and 3, because the difference between the one and the other is more apparent

than real, and often no greater than the difference between tweedledum and tweedle-dee.

We have promised Dr. Peters a lesson in auscultation ; here it is ; we proffer it to him for the sake of auld lang syne, and in order to help him digest the raw materials which he piles up in his memory and in his note-books, without sufficiently assimilating them to his inner reason. The lesson which we wish to teach our critic is this : *that the blowing sounds which are heard in valvular disease of the heart and the blowing sounds which are heard in pneumonia, originate in the same cause, are the same in essence, and only differ quantitatively not qualitatively.* When the healthy lungs draw in the air, this gas flashes through the air-cells and is then expelled again in a regular, uniform manner, which process is accompanied by certain noises, or murmurs, but during which the blowing sounds which are heard in pneumonia, are entirely wanting. What are these blowing-sounds, or *souffle*, as the French term them ? We will explain. When the lung is inflamed, the air, instead of flashing through the air-cells, remains confined in the larger bronchial tubes, and it is the expulsion of this air, which takes place with an unnatural or *excessive effort*, that gives rise to the blowing noise ; hence it is heard most distinctly, and frequently only, during an expiration, and ceases again as soon as the inflammation of the pulmonary tissue is removed. What causes these blowing sounds in valvular disease of the heart ? Let us see. In a healthy heart, where the orifices are exactly covered by their valves, these latter are raised sufficiently, at every contraction of the heart, to admit of the passage of the current of blood, and the air which is expelled from the inner heart simultaneously with the blood, is so intimately mixed up with this fluid that its passage out of the heart is not perceived by the external ear. But when the valve is shortened or entirely obliterated, the case is different ; then atmospheric air in a free state is expelled from the heart at each contraction, and it is the passage of this air through the uncovered orifice of the heart that causes the blowing sound, which the French likewise term *souffle*, and which is sometimes so harsh that it has been compared to the blowing sound occasioned by a pair of bellows when the air is forced out of them. Hence it will be perceived, that in either case, in the case of the diseased heart as well as in that of the inflamed lung, the abnormal sound is occasioned by the expulsion of the air contained in the

interior of the organs, and that the difference which may exist between the *souffle* of the heart, and that of the lung, is owing to the difference existing between the acting forces, and the structural tissues of the expelling organs. The heart contracts four times to the lungs once, and this alone accounts for the fact that the blowing noise heard in the lungs cannot be as intense as that heard in the heart. The difference in favor of the heart cannot be overcome by the larger volume of air expelled from the bronchial tubes; although it must be evident to every intelligent reader of these few lines, that the valvular disease may be so rudimentary, that the blowing sound occasioned by the passage of air through the valvular orifice, is not near as distinct as the blowing noises heard in the bronchial tubes.

We will not extend these remarks any farther. They are sufficient to show that Dr. Peters has made a mountain out of a mole-hill. But we now wish to ask, in our turn: What becomes of Dr. Peters' sneering remark: "none but one entirely unpractised in the physical examination of the chest, could have committed so great and serious a blunder, as to locate a sound, which is only heard in valvular disease of the heart, in an inflamed lung." This phrase would lead us to infer that no abnormal sounds are heard in an inflamed lung. Where else then are they heard? We have no desire ever to become guilty of the *real* ignorance which is covered by this pretentious assumption of learning. Auscultation and percussion are desirable auxiliaries to diagnosis, when handled by enlightened physicians, who prefer ideas and genuine facts to sounding terms; but when pressed into the service of such unphilosophical minds as our critic, they become a system of empty technicalities which do well enough in the eyes of the vulgar as a deceitful garb for learned ignorance, but are utterly powerless to elevate the professional mind into the light of higher and brighter truth.

Feeling in a mood to criticise, we may as well advert to the manner in which Dr. Peters treats diseases homœopathically. In the February number of the North American Homœopathic Journal, we find an article entitled "*On fatty diseases of the heart*," by Dr. Peters. This article is an importation, in a condensed form, from British soil, together with all the allœopathic absurdities and crudities with which the original composition is tainted. Under the head of "*Diet*," for instance, the patient is advised to use pepper, mustard, salt and Worcester sauce, in order to aid digestion. This is

a good old English and universally recommended alloëopathic fashion, recommended by Dr. Chambers, and, upon his authority, by his American imitator, Dr. Peters. We do not object to usages like these, but how does such treatment agree with the use of homœopathic doses? How do these quantities of pepper, mustard, salt and Worcester sauce agree with the *nux vomica* which Dr. Peters prescribes as an accompaniment to these condiments? Is the reader to understand that the *nux* is to be taken in teaspoonful doses stirred in a mixture of pepper, mustard, salt and Worcester sauce? This is a species of homœopathy which may be acceptable to the most inveterate advocate of alloëopathy, but which cannot but be rejected by all the thoughtful and enlightened friends of our cause.

Spirit of Hahnemann! what a treatment is here proposed in the name of homœopathy! A morbid process is set up in the organism, in consequence of which the substance of the heart degenerates and is in a measure transformed into fat. This is a purely dynamic process which Dr. Peters wishes to meet by converting the human body into a chemical laboratory, and saturating it with liquor-potassa in drachm doses, three times a day. It will remove the fat, says he, at the rate of from seven to ten pounds per week. So it will, but what will it substitute in the place? How does it affect the morbid process in consequence of which the fat is formed? By the time that your liquor potassa has effected any sensible reduction of the fatty matter, the digestive functions will either have become so impaired or so utterly ruined that the use of your chemical solvent will have to be discontinued. And now watch the reaction that is going to set in, if a reaction be still possible in an organism so enfeebled by violent drugging. The fat will form again worse than ever, and your patient may become the victim of your indiscretions. This same remark applies to your other drugs, your iodine-preparations in particular. We know very well that poisonous doses of iodine will emaciate an organism; but this is no curative action; it is a simple drug-effect, which, if it were to be continued in the organism, would either destroy the patient's life, or develop a permanent cachexia. Any reaction against such excessive drugging, provided a reaction be still possible, would undoubtedly be adverse to your patient.

We admire that sapient advice, "as the pancreatic juice has much

to do with the solution and absorption of fat, remedies which limit the secretion of this fluid may be used, such as tannic-acid, &c.

Dr. Peters must undoubtedly be allowed the liberty of being beguiled by the desire of exhibiting a little adventitious learning, into all sorts of extravagant and fanciful statements. But how can he, unless he has grown stark-mad, or is willing to profess himself ignorant of the first principles of homœopathy, advise such unmeaning balderdash as is contained in the lines we have quoted? Does he not know that the cardinal distinction between homœopathy and alloëopathy is this great and beautiful fact, that homœopathy holds the physiological laws and relations of the organism not only sacred and inviolable, but absolutely beyond the reach of human power? What is it that *damns*, absolutely *damns* the alloëopathic method of treatment in the eyes of all good and thinking men? It is this, that the alloëopathic physician, blinded by his pride and apparently unconscious of the existence of supreme laws which regulate every function of the living organism in a manner that man's coarse hands should never have interfered with, sets himself up as the chief manager and director of the organic movements of the body; whereas the homœopathic physician simply comes forward as an humble minister of the all-wise *First Cause*, and, without interfering in any shape or way, with the movements of the living body, which are absolutely, and necessarily always will and must be above man's control, he simply addresses himself to the disease which has invaded the organism, and, by specifically appropriate means, frees this latter from the presence of the disturber. Dr. Peters proposes to renew the old game of alloëopathic brag and bombast. Out with this old blood, says the alloëopath to his trusty lancet; expel me these impure humors, is his bidding to some cherished purgative; get me these glands to secrete a quart of fluid per day, is his command to his immortal Mercury. And here comes Dr. Peters, a pretended homœopath, who has no hesitation to follow the example of these illustrious ignoramuses, and to positively advise the administration of tannic acid, in order to limit the secretion of the pancreatic juice. Little did the Creator dream, when he formed the pancreas, that its secretory functions would one day have to be checked by Dr. Peters and tannic acid.

We have no objection to such treatment being pursued by any body who prefers quantities of sounding brass and shining tinsel to

the pure gold of truth ; but we do object to having such treatment paraded before the world in a respectable journal as *homœopathic*. So far from being homœopathic to the disease which this treatment is proposed for, we will take the liberty of informing our readers that it is no more nor less than a specimen of the chemical alterative treatment, which has now become all the rage, under the patronage of Liebig & Co., and that we look upon this species of treatment not only as insufficient, but as eminently injudicious and injurious.

Unfortunately the provocation for introducing such illusions into the bosom of our school, are great, very great. When we look at the mass of childish and disgusting rubbish which Hering, Mure, and others, are piling up in the name, yea as the very soul and body of Homœopathy, we cannot wonder that unphilosophical and incautious minds should fly from her altogether, as from a lifeless chimera. Between the two extremes of baseless fancy and gross materialism, the genuine science of Homœopathy would undoubtedly perish, if her footstool were not guarded by the angel of truth in the inmost sanctuary of nature.

CHARLES J. HEMPEL, M. D.

HOMŒOPATHIC INTELLIGENCE.

[From the Chicago Democratic Press.]

Semi-Annual Meeting and Grand Festival of the "Northern Illinois Homœopathic Medical Association."

The first annual meeting of this Association was held at Elgin, on Tuesday, January 1st; Dr. E. A. Guilbert, President, in the chair, and Dr. D. A. Colton, of Chicago, acting as Secretary. The attendance was numerous, and the general proceedings were characterized by zeal, ability, and good feeling on the part of the members.

The following gentlemen were admitted to membership in the Association, viz. : Doctors W. C. Barker, of Waukegan; Jeremiah Green, of Rockford; G. W. Chittenden, of Janesville, Wisconsin; J. S. P. Lord, of Batavia; M. D. Coe, of St. Charles; S. B. Williams, of Freeport; C. A. Drake, of Rockford; Henry R. Stiles of Galena, and D. S. Smith, of Chicago. Professor H. P. Gatchell, of Cleveland, Ohio, was elected an honorary member of the Association. A very interesting case of poisoning from the scrapings of matches (phosphorus), with the treatment of the same, translated from the German publication by Dr. C. A. Jaegar, of Waukegan,

was read by that gentleman, and many other interesting cases were reported by Drs. Lord, Ludlam, Barker, Jaegar and others.

Professor Gatchell, of the Western Homœopathic College at Cleveland, being introduced to the Association by the President, delivered a short address on the subject of establishing a Homœopathic Medical College at Chicago. He opposed such a movement, not from a spirit of rivalry, but because he desired to have a *few good* schools, rather than *many poor* ones; and he thought that multiplying colleges too fast, would, by dividing the patronage, tend to their weakness and inefficiency; whereas, the concentration of patronage upon a smaller number, would tend to their improvement, and, consequently, to the honor and prosperity of homœopathy, which was all he desired. Before taking his seat, Professor G. desired that members would express their sentiments freely respecting this matter, which they accordingly did, and all heartily concurred with the Professor's views. At a subsequent stage of the proceedings, resolutions were passed strongly condemning certain interested parties at the East, for their course in maligning the Cleveland College, and warmly declaring the confidence of this Association in that institution.

Dr. Wilcox, of Galena, from the Committee on Medical Organization, read a very interesting paper on Medical Ethics, and many other interesting matters were acted upon, which our time and space prevent us from publishing, or even alluding to. In the evening, the members of the Association, with a large audience of ladies and gentlemen of Elgin, assembled in "Sherman Hall," to hear a

LECTURE OF PROF. GATCHELL.

The writer began with arguing that the allopathic practice is not based upon scientific principles—that it originated partly in animal instinct, and partly in piece-meal experience; and that it had not been materially changed since the days of Hippocrates; that while the other sciences had progressed, under the development of the human mind and the increase of enlightenment, medical science, so called, had stood still. He termed the allopathic, the "antiquarian practice," not, he said, invidiously, but because it was such, and particularly, because its votaries boasted of its great antiquity as its especial merit. He argued to prove the absurdity of administering large doses of poisons to cure disease; of afflicting sound parts of the body in order to heal the diseased parts; of exhausting the

system of the patient by purging or vomiting, when it was requisite that his strength should be increased, illustrating his propositions and enforcing his ideas with facts familiar to the common mind. Then, passing to the homœopathic system of practice, he with equal ability argued to prove that it is based upon a plain principle of science, quoting hospital and other statistics in abundance, to prove the superior results of this practice over the "antiquarian." He defended the new system with much zeal, and furnished numerous plain facts in support of his premises, making his lecture altogether, most interesting to all, whether believers or disbelievers in his doctrine. It is but due to Professor Gatchell to say, irrespective of his medical doctrine, that he is a most able man in his profession, and a sterling gentleman in his private and social relations. Homœopathy may justly boast of such an exponent.

After the lecture, the members of the Association, repaired to the Waverly House, where, together with a number of the ladies and gentlemen of the place, they sat down to a banquet becoming the occasion.

After the company had paid due respect to the edibles, the President proceeded to read the regular toasts, which he had hastily prepared for the occasion, and which we shall be compelled to dispose of more briefly than we would desire to do.

The First Toast.—"To the memory of Hahnemann," was briefly responded to by Dr. Ludlam of Chicago.

The Second.—"To the Orator of the Day—Professor H. B. Gatchell," was responded to by that gentleman in his usual felicitous style.

The Third.—"The Disciples of Hahnemann," &c., was appropriately responded to by Dr. Bartlett.

The Fourth.—"The Press," was responded to by Mr. C. N. Pine, of Chicago, (late of the New Jersey press,) who was present by invitation, and who was called upon to respond. He said that though he was not at present directly connected with the press, he might presume so far upon his recent occupancy of the chair-editorial as to attempt a response to the sentiment just proposed. The few months that had elapsed since he was an humble member of the editorial fraternity, had not weakened his feelings of affection and pride from his late profession, nor from that glorious instrument mentioned in the toast. That instrument which had placed the Bible at every fireside, and to which science and truth were so much indebted for their progress in the world. But for the press, Hahnemann's philosophy might not have been talked of here to-day, especially by a convention of his disciples assembled here, so many thousand miles distant from the birth-place of young homœopathy.

His ignorance, he said, of medical matters, placed him in rather an awkward position; he was not there as the defender or opponent of homœopathy, or any other medical "pathy" or "ism." He

believed there was some good in all the medical systems of the day. How much harm they had done, he would not pretend to calculate. But it seemed to be universally admitted, even by the enemies of homœopathy, that "if it did no good, it did *no harm*," and this he thought was saying much in its praise. But he thought the world had sufficient evidence that it could boast some *positive* virtues. The fact that so many high-minded and intelligent men had adopted this system of practice, many of whom were allopathic graduates, and the fact that they all find employment, should convince the most prejudiced that there is something good in the system. When he saw around him so many honorable and intelligent men, men too much enlightened and too shrewd to be easily imposed upon, and too honest to practice what they believed to be *false*—when he saw so many of such men as these, battling against disease under the banner inscribed, "*Similia similibus curantur*," he was compelled to believe that there was something good in homœopathy, to say nothing of the known results of that system of practice.

Now, if it be conceded that homœopathy can boast some *positive* virtues *that do good*, in addition to the great negative virtue that it *does no harm*, it must be conceded that Hahnemann has laid the foundation of a great medical reform, and that medical science, which hitherto has stood unmoving and immovable, like a lifeless statue in some retired niche in the temple of Progress, half enveloped in the dust and cob-webs of ages, had shaken the dust from its brow, and taken a step or two forward into the light of the nineteenth century. The speaker fancied he saw, now, the personification of old Medical Science slowly and cautiously emerging from its long dark resting place, rubbing the dust of the past from its eyes, and between sundry ludicrous winking and blinkings, *trying to look truth in the face, like an owl trying to look at the noon-day sun*. Hahnemann's words had entered its "dull, cold ear," had lured it from the place where Hippocrates left it, and had set it to thinking and reasoning. He hoped the results would prove beneficial to the human family.

The chief sin (he thought) of allopathy had been its too great reverence for *old things*, merely because they *were* old, and consequently, its rejection of everything new merely because it was new, without submitting its claims to a fair and honorable test in the crucible of reason. But, a "change was coming o'er the spirit of its long dream." This was evinced by the late confessions of Tessier and others, who had dared to throw open a few of the long-closed blinds of the allopathic temple, and let in the light—who had opened a door in that ancient edifice, and permitted investigation, arm in arm with Truth and Reason, to walk in and test the virtues of the musty dogmas of old. While everything else was advancing and improving, why should medical science lag behind? Men do not now entertain the idea that the earth stands still, and that the

sun moves around it, and why should they cling to a medical idea coeval and twin-born with this? Was not Hahnemann a medical Galileo? At least, the philosophy of each had a *revolutionary* tendency. The philosophy of Galileo makes the *physical world* turn round, and the philosophy of Hahnemann bids fair to turn the *world of physic* upside down.

TO SUBSCRIBERS AND READERS OF PHILADA. JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

“Valeat res ludicra.”—HORACE.

GENTLEMEN :

It has doubtless been the frequent lot of each of you to be summoned to the bedside where enfeebled strength, depressed energies, slow and certain disease were plainly and surely doing their work upon the poor mortal frame, whose eyes turned to you wistfully, beseechingly, whose lips moved convulsively toward you for a little aid—for a brief space to ward off that dreaded, but inexorable convoy who claims for the grave its victim, for eternity its new habitation! How all your sympathies were enlisted, all your genius taxed, all your skill called into requisition I need not say, and what days of thought and nights of watching and study were cheerfully devoted while you were inspired by one ray of hope that for the present at least death should prove

“Willing for once to quit his prey
And grant a kind reprieve!”

Something akin to this state of feeling was experienced by me—albeit at the side of no mortal bed of languishing—when called in consultation to the house of Dr. Wm. A. Gardiner, with himself, Drs. Toothaker, Reed, W. T. Helmuth and J. F. Sheek, in the month of June last, to take into serious consideration the debilitated and sinking condition of “The Philadelphia Journal of Homœopathy!” It was a deeply serious and anxious deliberation; we all felt that for some time previous the seeds of certain disease had lodged themselves in the very vitals of the Journal; it had even then been in a *trance* for more than six weeks, and it depended upon the skill and energy of us all whether it should ever more open its eyes to behold the sun. Dr. W. A. Gardiner, its regular attendant, appealed to our sympathies, to our philanthropy, and to our love of “the good cause,” to which we were pledged, on behalf of the Journal, which must then of necessity have come to

an end if we refused to aid it without prospect or hope of ever receiving a fee! The result of this meeting was that we promised individually and severally to furnish not less than five pages of suitable matter each to every number till March, 1856. You will see, gentlemen, by reference to the monthly parts, that Dr. Helmuth complied with his engagement for the first number after the arrangement by an excellent article selected from the British Journal, whilst doubtless, from press of professional and other business, he has not been able to furnish further contributions — and Drs. Gardiner and Reed, for similar reasons, no doubt, were unfortunately unable to furnish any portion of the promised help. This left the whole to devolve upon Dr. Toothaker and myself. How we have accomplished our task it is not for me to say. But this is a simple statement of the way in which your humble servant was led into an unexpected and unsought office, and compelled to provide a large share of what has been laid before you up to this day. My only reward is the consciousness that I have aided homœopathy as far as lay in my power, and made myself some enemies by my efforts to sustain her legitimate claims, and redeem her from the degradation to which some foolish and incompetent men had reduced her in this city. Thus far have we watched over the wants of the Journal, but in spite of our best efforts, it has come to its end. *It dies this month of stricture of the purse*, and this is its “burial certificate.”

But let us now for a moment glance at our periodical literature, and ask why it happens, that we in Philadelphia cannot sustain one monthly item, at a time when our school stands most in need of support and some worthy representative to prove to the world that we possess some experience, some judgment, and enough elementary education to give tone and character to our cause; in a city where we are about eighty members strong, with one college in existence, *another in the clouds*, and a hospital which has now been buried only a year, its hatchment still out, bearing, though growing fainter daily, the word of hope, “*Resurgam!*” It is clear, that in order to sustain a medical, or indeed any periodical, with credit and advantage, there must be not only sufficient literary acquirements at the disposal of those who manage the editorial department, but a sufficient number and variety of contributions to supply its pages with original and useful matter and a number of *paying* subscribers

equal to the necessary outlay of publication. As it does not become me to speak in favor of the Editorial department of this work, having been a sharer in the praise or blame that it may receive, I can only refer with propriety to the contributions and the financial department. It must be evident to every reader of the Journal, that almost from the very first, the number of original articles supplied bore no proportion to our numbers, even in this city, which might be reasonably expected to supply clinical notes enough to fill two or three monthly periodicals, without mentioning all they could say upon *Theory* and *Practice*, the progress of science, and in defence of our school against its opponents. The very small supply of such articles furnished to the Journal forces you to the conclusion that a very large majority of those calling themselves "doctors," either *would* not or *could* not write. If they *would not*, their want of zeal for what they believe to be the cause of humanity, is culpable in the extreme; if they *could not*, the shame and the disgrace lie at our door as a body, and demands a speedy and thorough reform. And however humiliating the confession, we must admit that some of the articles furnish internal evidence that the rudest elements of the art of writing are unknown even to some who were ambitious to become authors. We need only refer the educated reader to such specimens as are to be found in Vol. I., pages 157, 227, 230, 427, 518. Vol. II., pages 17, 396, 59. Vol. III., pages 213-216. These furnish melancholy examples of the state of letters and professional knowledge among us. And the admission of such stuff into a work intended to be the exponent of our school, and issuing from our head quarters in America;—a work that found its way to London, Paris, and Berlin,—is sufficient evidence that homœopathy needs to *reform itself* by elevating its literary tone and clearing out the rottenness that has become visible at its very core. No professedly scientific Journal which glories in contributions that set at defiance the relation between a noun and its verb, a pronoun and its antecedent, talking in the slang verbiage common to the servants' hall and stable-yard, showing even a want of acquaintance with the common terms of the subject on which they treat, could be expected to maintain its ground or receive countenance from those wishing well to the cause. This unhappy patient had therefore shown symptoms of decay and early death almost in infancy. Hence, no small amount of praise is due to those whose

skilful treatment and fostering care have kept it alive for four long years. We say this much, even at the risk of being accused of claiming our quota for the last eleven months.

We have only spoken of one form of disease with which it was affected; we come now to notice a more fatal malady to which figurative allusion has already been made, as the immediate cause of its demise. For the following statement we are indebted to Dr. Jacob F. Sheek, the publisher, and present proprietor.

Paid to Dr. W. A. Gardiner, for Vols. 1 and 2, . . .	\$600 00	
Cost of publishing 1000 copies of Vol. 3, . . .	1200 00	
“ “ 600 “ “ 4, . . .	1000 00	
		<hr/>
Total expenditure, . . .		\$2800 00
By Cash received for Vols. 1 and 2, \$000 00		
Subscriptions for Vol. 3, . . . 765 40		
“ “ 4, . . . 529 00		
		<hr/>
Total Receipts, . . . \$1294 40		1294 40
		<hr/>
Total loss, . . .		\$1505 60
Loss on Vols. 1 and 2, \$600 00		
“ “ 3, 434 60		
“ “ 4, 471 00		
		<hr/>
		\$1505 60

Dr. S. states that the number of subscribers was amply sufficient not only to sustain the Journal, but to make it even profitable, but that so large a proportion of them refused to pay, that each volume left a balance against him, as shown above. So that it is perfectly clear that (according to the method he had adopted of reducing the number of copies to meet the demands of *paying* subscribers only, and these growing each year “small by degrees, and beautifully less,”) it would in a few years be reduced to *one substantial subscriber*, and a publication of *one single copy* to supply the demand.

And now for the first shovel-full of dust, and the last words of decent interment over the mortal remains of our unhappy *pauper patient*;—whose death is gain to Sheek, regret to none, and rejoicing to many, —even to the genii of the “News,” and the great men of the “Provers’ Union,”—who, however, must not rejoice too soon, or too vociferously; for the last volume, though dead, *shall yet speak*, as it has spoken; and the words it has uttered shall still be echoed from the sides of the vault in which we lay it at rest! They are

echoes from words of eternal truth, and certain destiny. DARKNESS SHALL ENSHROUD IGNORANCE IN HER SABLE FOLDS, DISGRACE SHALL COVER HUMBBUG AND UNFOUNDED ASSUMPTION, AND PERDITION TRAMPLE IN THE DUST COWARDICE AND FALSEHOOD !

And now, gentlemen, before we part, one word to you who can pay, have paid, and would still pay for a useful and necessary periodical, what shall we do? Many of you can write, and I trust shall write to the advantage of our school and cause. We *need* a Journal for our information and improvement—a literary, liberal, truthful, and scientific periodical—where shall we find it? It will not do to fling our money away, and what is worse, give *our sanction* to any abortive spawn that may be flung into our midst by any two or three men who may be tormented with that miserable disease called the “scribbling itch,” merely to flourish as “editors” upon the strength of what they can *provide* with that very ready and useful “*pen*,” which every dunce can wield, a *pair of sharp scissors*. Let us not lend ourselves to this literary claptrap, this “picking and stealing” business, let us throw all our influence into the scale of *two periodicals* that do honor to our cause, and justice to our claims; they are already established, and need no commendation from my pen. You who are educated, cannot help seeing that “*The British Journal of Homœopathy*,” and “*The North American Homœopathic Journal*,” are all that they should be, conducted by gentlemen and scholars who know their profession; that they have been thus far replete with valuable information and useful suggestions; that they challenge even the approbation and respect of our medical opponents;—and we have heard with our own ears, no measured praise from their lips. Let us support these, and sustain them by our contributions and our cash. With the latter, I have thus far given them my small aid. I shall continue to do it still:—and my present recommendations are equally spontaneous, and doubtless, unsought. I never exchanged a word or a thought with the parties concerned in either, nor am I indebted to them *even for the gratuitous copy* which usually “lies on the editor’s table.” They are *books, our books, the books we require*, and those *we all need*; therefore I praise, recommend to others, and buy them myself.

I have the honor to remain

Your obedient, humble servant,

JOHN FITZGIBBON GEARY.

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